

## OPCW SETS SYRIA PLAN

TOBY STERLING

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — Inspectors who will oversee Syria's destruction of its chemical weapons said Sunday their first priority is to help the country scrap its ability to manufacture such arms by a Nov. 1 deadline — using



In this Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013 photo, a Syrian opposition fighter takes cover during exchange of fire with government forces in northwest Syria.

(AP Photo)

every means possible.

The chemical weapons inspectors said that may include smashing mixing equipment with sledgehammers, blowing up delivery missiles, driving tanks over empty shells or filling them with concrete, and running machines without lubricant so they seize up and become inoperable. On Friday, the U.N. Security Council ordered the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to help Syria destroy its chemical weapons by mid-2014. On Sunday, inspectors met with media in The Hague to explain their current plan of action, which is to include an initial group of 20 leaving for Syria on Monday.

Continued on Page 2

## CLOUDY with a chance of SHUTDOWN



Dark clouds hang over the U.S. Capitol in Washington on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013. A midnight Monday deadline is approaching for Congress to break an impasse over funding the government. The political and economic stakes mounting with each tick of the clock, the White House and congressional Democrats say a House-approved delay in President Barack Obama's health care law does nothing but push Washington to the brink of the first government shutdown in 17 years.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## Democrats, Republicans trade blame as deadline looms

WASHINGTON (AP) — As the U.S. government teeters on the brink of a partial shutdown, congressional Republicans and Democrats traded blame Sunday for the failure to reach agreement on a temporary funding bill to keep federal agencies open. Congress was closed for the day after a post-midnight vote in the Republican-run House of Representatives to delay by a year key parts of President Barack Obama's health care law and repeal a tax on medical devices, in exchange for avoiding a shutdown. The Senate is slated to con-

vene Monday afternoon just hours before the shutdown deadline at midnight, and Majority Leader Harry Reid has already promised that Democrats will kill the House's latest proposal. In the event lawmakers blow the Monday deadline, about 800,000 federal workers would be forced off the job without pay. Some critical services such as patrolling the borders, inspecting meat and controlling air traffic would continue. Social Security benefits would be sent and the Medicare and Medicaid health care programs for the elderly and poor

would continue to pay doctors and hospitals. The latest fiscal fight underscored the deep divide between the Republicans and the Obama administration and its Democratic allies. Republicans insisted the health care law was costing jobs and driving up health care costs. Obama has said he won't let the law, his chief domestic achievement, be gutted. Democrats say Republicans are obsessed with attacking the overhaul, which is aimed at providing health coverage for millions of uninsured Americans. Since the last government

shutdown 17 years ago, temporary funding bills known as continuing resolutions have been noncontroversial, with neither party willing to chance a shutdown to achieve legislative goals it couldn't otherwise win. But with exchanges set to open on Tuesday where people could shop for health care coverage from private insurers, lawmakers from the Republicans' ultraconservative tea-party wing are willing to take the risk in their drive to kill the health care law, known as Obamacare.

Continued on Page 3



# Chemical weapons inspectors outline Syria plan

Continued from front

The organization allowed two inspectors to speak on condition of anonymity out of concern for their safety amid Syria's civil war; both are veteran members of the OPCW. Spokesman Michael Luhan said the men "are going to be deeply involved in Syria." "This isn't just extraordinary for the OPCW. This hasn't been done before: an international mission to go into a country which is involved in a state of conflict and amid that conflict oversee the destruction of an entire category of weapons of mass destruction which it possesses," Luhan said. "This is definitely a historical first." Syria acknowledged for the first time it has chemical weapons after an Aug. 21 poison gas attack killed hundreds of civilians in a Damascus suburb and President Barack Obama threatened a military strike in retaliation. A U.N. investigation found that nerve gas was used in the attack but stopped short of blaming it on Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime. After a flurry of diplomat-

ic negotiations involving the U.S., Syria, and Syrian ally Russia, Syria made an initial voluntary disclosure of its program to the Hague-based OPCW. Under organization's rules, the amounts and types of weapons in Syria's stockpiles, and the number and location of the sites, will not be publicly disclosed. The U.S. and Russia agree that Syria has roughly 1,000 metric tons of chemical weapons agents and precursors, including blister agents such as sulfur and mustard gas, and nerve agents like sarin. External experts say they are distributed over 50 to 70 sites. One of the OPCW experts with a military background said the "open source" information about the Syrian program is "reasonable." Timothee Germain, a researcher at the Center for International Security and Arms Control in Paris, who is not involved with the OPCW project, said that in the early phases of Syria's civil war, chemical weapons were consolidated into a small number of sites in order to keep them from falling into the hands of

rebels. But when the prospect of a U.S. military strike emerged, the weapons may have been redistrib-

uted over a larger number of sites to preserve them. He added that he is skeptical the current timeline can be achieved. "From a technical standpoint, it's really a long-shot," he said. The investigators said members of the initial group of 20 will meet with counterparts from Syria's



President Bashar Assad gestures as he speaks during an interview with Italy's RAI News 24 TV, at the presidential palace in Damascus, Syria, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013. Assad says his government will abide by last week's U.N. resolution calling for the country's chemical weapons program to be dismantled and destroyed.

(AP Photo/SANA)

larger number of investigators who will arrive in waves and begin visiting sites and disabling equipment. At the same time, they will be examining sites for their suitability as places to eventually destroy chemicals and ready-to-fire weapons, which is usually done by incineration. □

## Nine killed in 3 narcotics attacks across Mexico

A. GOMEZ LICON  
Associated Press

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Shootings erupted over the weekend in three Mexican cities where drug gangs are fighting turf battles, killing at least nine people and wounding six more, officials said Sunday. Gunmen on motorcycles arrived at a bar in the resort city of Cuernavaca and opened fire, killing three young men and a 22-year-old woman, the Morelos state prosecutor's office said. The attack near midnight Saturday also injured four people, who were recovering in local hospitals under police guard, a common practice when officials consider victims' lives still in danger.

In the northern city of Fresnillo, a group of armed men shot three people dead Saturday afternoon outside a convenience store. Federal and local police launched a wide search in the city of about 230,000 people that sits on a main drug trafficking route, but the attackers were still at large, the Zacatecas state attorney general's office said in a statement.

In the northern industrial hub of Monterrey, attackers shot at a group standing outside a bar in the early hours of Sunday, killing two men and wounding two.

The shooting came three days after two masked gunmen killed four people and wounded two others inside a bar in a nearby suburb. Authorities have not said whether the shooting were related, but the assailants in both attacks arrived in taxis.

The weekend bloodshed raised fears that drug cartel violence may stir up again in areas where authorities had already applauded a reduction in drug-related homicides.

Meanwhile, the gangs continue to plot new ways to take over corridors into the United States.

Authorities in the northern state of Coahuila said over the weekend that police detained nine boys. □

# Massive car bomb kills 40 in northern Pakistan

RIAZ KHAN

Associated Press

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)**

— A car bomb ripped through a crowded street in Peshawar's oldest bazaar Sunday, killing 40 people in the third blast to hit the troubled Pakistani city in a week, officials said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. The explosion appeared to have been caused by a bomb planted in a parked car and detonated by remote control, said police officer Zahid Khan. It went off near a mosque and a police station, damaging the house of worship and nearby shops and engulfing many vehicles in flames, police said.

At least 40 people were killed and 90 wounded, said Jamil Shah, a spokesman for Lady Reading Hospital, where the victims

were taken.

Such attacks in Peshawar, in northwestern Pakistan, have claimed more than

a crowd of worshippers at a church, killing 85 people. On Friday, 19 people died when a bomb planted on



Injured Pakistani men are carried away from the site of a blast shortly after a car explosion in Peshawar, Pakistan, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013. A car bomb exploded on a crowded street in northwestern Pakistan Sunday, killing scores of people in the third blast to hit the troubled city of Peshawar in a week, officials said.

(AP Photo/Mohammad Sajjad)

140 lives since last Sunday, when two suicide bombers blew themselves up in

a bus carrying government employees exploded in the Peshawar outskirts.

The Sunni militant group Jundullah claimed responsibility for the church attack, saying it targeted Christians to avenge the deaths of Muslims killed by U.S. drone strikes.

The dead included 14 members of a single family who were visiting Peshawar to plan a wedding along with their driver and an assistant, said relatives. Mohammad Alam said the group had come to Peshawar from a nearby village to invite him to their son's wedding. He said they were in a van when the bomb exploded.

A bookshop owner, Nazar Ali, had just opened his shop when the bomb went off.

"It was a huge blast that was followed by fire in vehicles. Thick black smoke covered the air and splinters spread all over. □



## Democrats, Republicans trade blame as deadline looms

Continued from front

The action in Washington was limited mainly to the Sunday TV talk shows and barrages of press releases as Democrats and Republicans rehearsed arguments for blaming each other if the government in fact closes its doors at midnight Monday.

"You're going to shut down the government if you can't prevent millions of Americans from getting affordable care," said Democratic Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland.

"The House has twice now voted to keep the government open. And if we have a shutdown, it will only be because when the Senate comes back, Harry Reid says, 'I refuse even to talk,'" said Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who staged a 21-hour marathon speech against allowing the temporary funding bill to advance if stripped clean of a tea party-backed provision to derail Obamacare. The effort ultimately failed.

The battle started with a House vote to pass the short-term funding bill with a provision that would have defunded implementation of the health care overhaul. The Senate voted along party lines to strip that out and lobbed the measure back to the House.

The latest House measure, passed early Sunday by a near party-line vote of 231-192, sent back to the Senate two key changes: a one year delay of key provisions of the health in-



An empty hallway in the U.S. Capitol Sunday morning, Sept. 29, 2013, as a government shutdown looms, in Washington. The political and economic stakes mounting with each tick of the clock, the White House and congressional Democrats say a House-approved delay in President Barack Obama's health care law does nothing but push Washington to the brink of the first government shutdown in 17 years.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

surance law and repeal of a new tax on medical devices that partially funds it, steps that still go too far for The White House and its Democratic allies on Capitol Hill.

Senate rules often make it difficult to act quickly, but the chamber can act on the House's latest proposals by simply calling them up and killing them on a non-debatable motion.

Eyes were already turning to the House Sunday for its next move. One of its top leaders vowed it would not simply give in to Democrats' demands to pass the Senate's "clean" funding bill.

"The House will get back together in enough time, send another provision not

to shut the government down, but to fund it, and it will have a few other options in there for the Senate

to look at again," said the No. 3 House Republican leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California. "We are not shutting the government down."

On the other hand, Democrats said Republicans' bravado may fade as the deadline to avert a shutdown nears.

Asked whether he could vote for a "clean" temporary funding bill, Republican Rep. Raul Labrador of Idaho said he couldn't. But Labrador added, "I think there's enough people in the Republican Party who are willing to do that. And I think that's what you're going to see."

McCarthy wouldn't say what changes Republicans might make. He appeared to suggest that a very short-term measure might pass at the last minute, but Republican aides said that was unlikely. □





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## As opening day nears, insurance exchanges scramble to prepare

ABBY GOODNOUGH

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**PORTLAND, Ore.** - Rocky King, the executive director of Oregon's new health insurance exchange, has done everything in his power to tamp down expectations for its opening Tuesday.

He rejected the idea of a flashy downtown news conference that morning. He postponed a series of ads meant to drive customers to its website, coveroregon.com. In fact, King is not even allowing people to sign up for health cov-

erage online without assistance at first; they will have to go through an insurance agent or a community group until at least mid-October.

Tuesday is the long-awaited kickoff for President Barack Obama's signature health care law, when millions of Americans can start signing up for new insurance options. Yet across the country, officials are issuing warnings that despite fevered efforts, their new insurance exchanges - online markets where people can shop for health plans

and see if they qualify for federal subsidies - will not be fully operational for weeks or even months.

Last week, the District of Columbia's exchange announced that it would not immediately be able to determine online whether people qualify for Medicaid, which about half the states are expanding under the law, or for a federal subsidy to help cover the cost of private coverage. In Colorado, for the first month, people who want to know if they are eligible for a subsidy will have to



**Rocky King, executive director of Cover Oregon, the state's new health insurance exchange, in Portland, Ore.**

(Thomas Patterson/The New York Times)

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In Nevada, home to a large Hispanic population, a Spanish-language version of the exchange website will not be ready until mid-November. And in Maryland, small businesses will not be able to buy insurance for their employees through the state exchange until January. Federally run exchanges are having similar problems. Now many of the 16 directors of state-run exchanges are describing October as a "soft launch" period, when Americans can start exploring their coverage options - but on websites that may be incomplete, vulnerable to glitches, and perhaps not ready for a full onslaught of customers.

"I have no idea what this thing's going to look like on Oct. 1," King said one afternoon last week as dozens of tense-looking programmers on laptops, scattered through the exchange offices outside Portland, rushed to finish testing and fix problems. "We could crash and burn and have to close it down."

The outcome could hardly be more important for Obama. With Republicans threatening to shut down the government unless Democrats agree to delay

the law for a year, even small problems with the exchanges could be powerful fodder for the law's opponents.

Although the exchanges have been able to tap billions of federal startup dollars and hire companies like Accenture, Oracle and Xerox to help with the work, their task has been highly complex and their time frame tight.

The Web portals for the exchanges have to be able to share information in real time with insurance companies, state agencies and the federal government, which has built a "data hub" through which it can verify the income and citizenship of people applying for subsidies or Medicaid. Each portal has to undergo rigorous testing to ensure, for example, that data will flow properly, that the portal is secure and that it can handle heavy volume. Much of the testing is still going on.

"Everybody is working 24/7," Christine C. Ferguson, the director of Rhode Island's exchange, told reporters in a conference call last week. "We are sliding into that date still testing and making sure that we are able to fulfill the promise that we've made for Oct. 1." □



## Dad of stabbed Dodgers fan makes plea for evidence



From left to right, Jill Haro, aunt, Robert Preece, father, and Robert Preece Jr., brother, and Diana Denver, mother, of Los Angeles Dodgers fan Jonathan Denver, make a public plea for witnesses to the fatal stabbing Wednesday of Jonathan Denver, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, outside the stadium before the Giants' baseball game Sunday in San Francisco. Jonathan Denver, 24, was stabbed Wednesday during a melee following a game between the Giants and the Los Angeles Dodgers. (AP Photo/Tony Avelar)

Denver was stabbed to death Wednesday after attending the game with his brother, father and two others to celebrate his father's 49th birthday. Denver lived in Fort Bragg, a Northern California city about 170 miles (275 kilometers) north of San Francisco.

Preece didn't go into details Sunday about what happened, but police say Denver's group, many wearing Dodgers garb, left AT&T Park after the eighth inning to head to a nearby bar. At some point, they got into a shouting match over the Dodgers with Montgomery and a few friends who were bar-hopping in the trendy South of Market area. □

### PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

#### SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

The father of a Los Angeles Dodgers fan stabbed to death after a San Francisco Giants game last week made a public plea Sunday for independent witnesses to contact authorities.

Robert Preece spoke outside AT&T Park before the Giants played the San Diego Padres. He said he believes bystanders used mobile devices to record a fight that ended with the death of his 24-year-old son, Jonathan Denver.

"Losing a child is a heart-ache no parent should have to endure," Preece said in his plea for witnesses to the fight, which resulted in the arrest of Michael Montgomery.

"The Montgomery family is suffering as well," Preece said.

Montgomery, 21, was released from custody Friday night after San Francisco

District Attorney George Gascon said police had insufficient evidence to charge him in the death of Denver, 24.

Gascon said police had not spoken with any independent witnesses who may have witnessed the fight Wednesday night.

"We have reason to believe someone recorded this," said Preece's sister, Jill Preece Haro, in a phone interview, adding that Denver's father and others with him saw bystanders using cellphone cameras. "We're calling on them to come forward to help both families find out what happened."

Haro said family members, including the victim's father who works as a security guard at Dodger Stadium, were motivated to travel from Southern California to make his public plea after Montgomery's release and Gascon's explanation.

Police didn't return phone calls seeking comment.

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## SEC lawsuit against Mark Cuban heads to trial in Dallas

**DAVID KOENIG**  
**AP Business Writer**

**DALLAS (AP)** — With the Dallas Mavericks' season-opening game still a month away, the basketball team's outspoken owner, Mark Cuban, will be seeing a different kind of court this week.

The government's insider-trading case against Cuban goes to trial Monday in federal court in Dallas. Cuban is expected to testify, and experts say the verdict could come down to whether jurors find the billionaire and regular on the ABC reality show "Shark Tank" to be likable or smug.

Cuban is accused of using insider information to dump his stock in a small Internet-search company in 2004 just before the shares fell in value. He avoided \$750,000 in losses. The Securities and Exchange Commission wants Cuban to give up the money and pay a civil penalty.

The SEC's key piece of evidence is a phone call between Cuban and the CEO of Mamma.com. According to the SEC, the CEO told Cuban he had confidential information to

share and Cuban agreed to keep it to himself. When the CEO said the company planned an offering of new stock, the SEC alleges, Cuban became angry be-

cause the offering would reduce the value of his 600,000 shares — and there was nothing he could do about it.

"Well now I'm screwed. I

can't sell," Cuban said, according to the SEC.

But over the following two days, that's exactly what Cuban did, unloading his shares before the compa-

ny publicly announced the stock offering.

Cuban disputes the SEC's version of the facts, and his lawyers argue that insider-trading laws didn't prohibit him from selling his shares.

U.S. District Judge Sidney Fitzwater agreed and dismissed the lawsuit in 2009, but his ruling was overturned by an appeals court, which sent the case back to Fitzwater for trial.

James Meyers, a former enforcement attorney at the SEC now in private practice in Washington, said that insider-trading cases are hard to prove because they rely on circumstantial evidence — a phone call, a stock trade, and a presumed link between the two — and because some jurors don't believe there's anything wrong with insider trading.

Cuban is expected to testify.

"A lot of it will come down to how Cuban comes across," Meyers said. He said that if he were Cuban's lawyer, "I would tell him to come across as humble and affable and not as master of the universe." Sports Illustrated listed Cuban among the 50 most powerful people in sports. He's known for building the Mavericks into a winner and drawing at least \$1.5 million in league fines, mostly for berating referees.

When the SEC sued Cuban in 2008, he went after the regulators. He accused SEC staff of bias — targeting him because of his political views and wealth. The SEC's inspector general, a government watchdog, said staffers made inappropriate comments about Cuban, but judged that their conduct didn't affect handling of the case. □



Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, right, and NBA Commissioner David Stern talk during a break at the NBA basketball owners meeting at a hotel in Dallas. The government's insider-trading case against Cuban goes to trial Monday, Sept. 30, 2013 in federal court in Dallas. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

## BP trial in 2nd phase, to set amount of oil spilled

**CLIFFORD KRAUSS**  
**© 2013 New York Times**

**HOUSTON** - With billions of dollars in penalties at stake, the civil trial of the British oil company BP begins its second phase Monday, which will set the amount of oil that spilled into the Gulf of Mexico from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon rig explosion that killed 11 workers and soiled hundreds of miles of beaches. The government will argue that a total 4.2 million barrels of oil was discharged into the sea over 87 days,

the equivalent of nearly one-quarter of all the oil that is consumed in the United States in a day. BP will counter that the number was closer to 2.45 million barrels. This phase of the trial will also determine if BP prepared adequately for a blowout and if it responded properly once the oil started flowing.

Both sides will present their case in U.S. District Court in New Orleans using competing technical calculations over the next four weeks. Hanging in the

balance are Clean Water Act fines that range from a maximum of \$1,100 for every barrel spilled through simple negligence to as much as \$4,300 a barrel if a company is found to have been grossly negligent.

The first phase of the trial, which took place over two months this year, centered on whether BP and its contractors were guilty of gross negligence - tantamount to wanton and reckless behavior - in causing the blowout of the Macondo well. Judge Carl J. Barbier

has not ruled yet on the question in the bench trial. But if he agrees with the government's position that there was gross negligence and that 4.2 million barrels was spilled, the fines could amount to more than \$18 billion. But if BP's position is upheld that there was simple negligence and only 2.45 million barrels was spilled, then the total fines would amount to roughly \$2.7 billion. In all likelihood, a decision or settlement will reach a dollar figure in between, legal experts say. □



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## FTC planning to examine patent troll businesses

EDWARD WYATT

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**WASHINGTON** - Stepping into a volatile debate in the technology sector, the Federal Trade Commission said Friday that it would use its subpoena power to begin an investigation of so-called patent trolls, businesses whose primary purpose is to stockpile patents and use them to sue other companies.

The action, which the commission's chairwoman recommended in June, is the first step in what is likely to be a lengthy and broad investigation. It could eventually result in antitrust enforcement against some of the companies and could provide momentum for efforts underway in Congress to tighten restrictions on such lawsuits.

The effort is intended to document the costs and benefits of a rising tide of patent litigation, said Edith Ramirez, the commission's chairwoman. In announcing the investigation, the FTC said it would seek information from roughly 25 companies that buy and sell patents, and 15 other companies that manufacture devices and write software and applications.

"Patents are key to innovation and competition, so it's important for us to get a better understanding" of how the companies, also known as patent assertion entities, operate, Ramirez said Friday.

The subpoenas will solicit information about the financial operations of the firms, and they will seek to uncover how much the companies earn from patent lawsuits and licensing, and how the profits are distributed to investors.

"This will give regulators

the ability to penetrate the shroud of secrecy that patent trolls operate behind," said Daniel Nazer, a lawyer at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a nonprofit organization that focuses on free speech and technology. "Patent trolls have complex structures, with thousands of shell companies. It's impossible to know who is pulling the strings and getting the dollars." But other patent experts say they fear that the effort could be little more than a fishing expedition, looking for problems that the investigators have already decided exist.

"At the end of the day, these are licensing companies that are practicing their property rights, much as a landlord is practicing his property rights by leasing a house," said Adam Mossoff, a law professor at George Mason University. Even the term "patent assertion" implies that the purpose of the company is to file lawsuits, Mossoff said, adding that he preferred to call them what they are - patent licensing companies.

Andrew Gavil, director of the office for policy planning at the FTC, said the agency had not predetermined anything about companies that license patents.

"This is a statistical study," he said. "We are not trying to lay a foundation for an enforcement action."

He said the commission hoped to begin requesting information from companies in the late winter or early spring.

The decision to move forward with the investigation was unanimously approved, 4-0, by the commission. □



Edith Ramirez, head of the Federal Trade Commission, speaks to reporters after delivering a speech at the National Press Club in Washington. The FTC said on Sept. 27 it would use its subpoena power to begin an investigation of so-called patent trolls, businesses whose primary purpose is to stockpile patents and use them to sue other companies.

(Mary F. Calvert/The New York Times)

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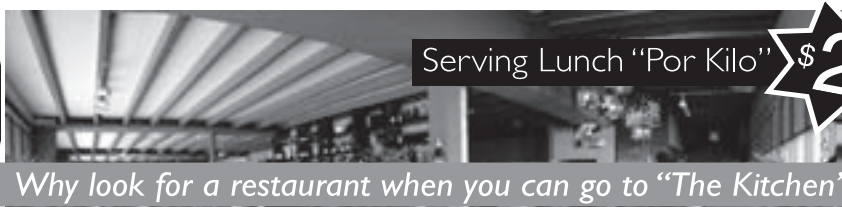
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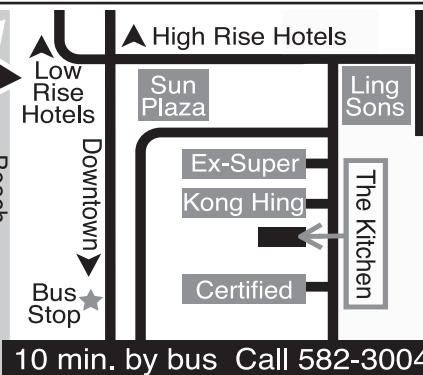


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## Israel's Netanyahu warns White House about Iran

JOSEF FEDERMAN  
Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — Mortified that the world may be warming up to Iran, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is taking an unpopular message to the White House and the United Nations this week: Don't be fooled by Tehran's new leadership.

Netanyahu contends Iran is using conciliatory gestures as a smoke screen to conceal an unabated march toward a nuclear bomb.

He will deliver those strong words of caution — and fresh intelligence — in an attempt to persuade the U.S. to maintain tough economic sanctions and not allow the Islamic republic to develop a bomb or even move closer to becoming a nuclear threshold state. With the White House cautiously optimistic about its dialogue with Iran, Monday's meeting between Netanyahu and President Barack Obama could be tense.

"I will tell the truth in the face of the sweet talk and the onslaught of smiles," Netanyahu said before

boarding his flight to the U.S. on Sunday. "Telling the truth today is vital for the security and peace of the world and, of course, it is vital for the security of the

delivered a conciliatory speech at the United Nations in which he repeated Iran's official position that it has no intention of building a nuclear weapon and de-

end of the call, the first conversation between the nation's leaders in 34 years, Obama was suggesting that a breakthrough on the nuclear issue could portend even deeper ties between the U.S. and Iran. U.S. and European diplomats hailed a "very significant shift" in Iran's attitude and tone.

For Netanyahu, such sentiments are nothing short of a nightmare.

For years, he has warned that Iran is steadily marching toward development of nuclear weapons, an assessment that is widely shared by the West because of Iran's continued enrichment of uranium and its run-ins with international nuclear inspectors. The Israeli prime minister contends Rouhani's outreach is a ploy to ease international sanctions and buy time.

Iran says its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes only.

Israel considers a nuclear-armed Iran an unacceptable threat, given repeated Iranian assertions that the Jewish state should not exist. Israel has a long list of other grievances against Iran, citing its support for hostile Arab militant groups, its development of long-range missiles and alleged Iranian involvement in attacks on Israeli targets in Europe and Asia.

On Sunday, Israel announced the arrest of a Belgian-Iranian businessman on espionage charges.

Netanyahu says the new Iranian leader must be judged on his actions, not his words. In the meantime, he says sanctions and other international pressure, including the threat of military action, must be increased. □



**Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel shows an illustration as he describes his concerns over Iran's nuclear ambitions during his address to the 67th session of the U.N. General Assembly. Netanyahu provided the U.N. with a memorable moment with a cartoon bomb a year ago. Now, mortified that the world may be warming up to Iran, Netanyahu is taking an unpopular message to the White House and the U.N. this week: Don't be fooled by Tehran's new leadership.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

state of Israel."

Israeli leaders watched with great dismay what they derisively call the "smiley campaign" by Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, last week. Rouhani

clared his readiness for new negotiations with the West. Capping off the visit, Rouhani and Obama held a 15-minute phone call as the Iranian leader was traveling to the airport. By the

## Sudan officials promise cash as protests swell

MAGGIE MICHAEL  
Associated Press

**KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)**

— Thousands of Sudanese protesters took to the streets of the capital Khartoum late Sunday, chanting "freedom" and renewing calls for their long-time autocratic president to resign after dozens of protesters were killed in a week of demonstrations sparked by austerity measures.

The government, which has imposed a media blackout, moved to appease the rancor with cash, saying it would distribute cash to half a million families to offset higher fuel and food prices in a country where nearly half the population lives below the poverty line.

The street demonstrations, which began after subsidies were lifted last week, have been the most widespread in Sudan since Omar al-Bashir seized power 24 years ago.

Waving pictures of slain protesters, thousands held a Sunday-night memorial for Salah al-Sanhouri, a demonstrator shot Friday during an earlier protest in Burri, an old Khartoum district.

Women called for the "downfall of the regime" and chanted "freedom, peace and justice, revolution is the choice of people."

Residents cheered on the marchers from rooftops while nearby security forces were stationed in pick-up trucks carrying mounted machine guns near the spot where al-Sanhouri was shot.

"The protests will continue and will reach a general strike." □

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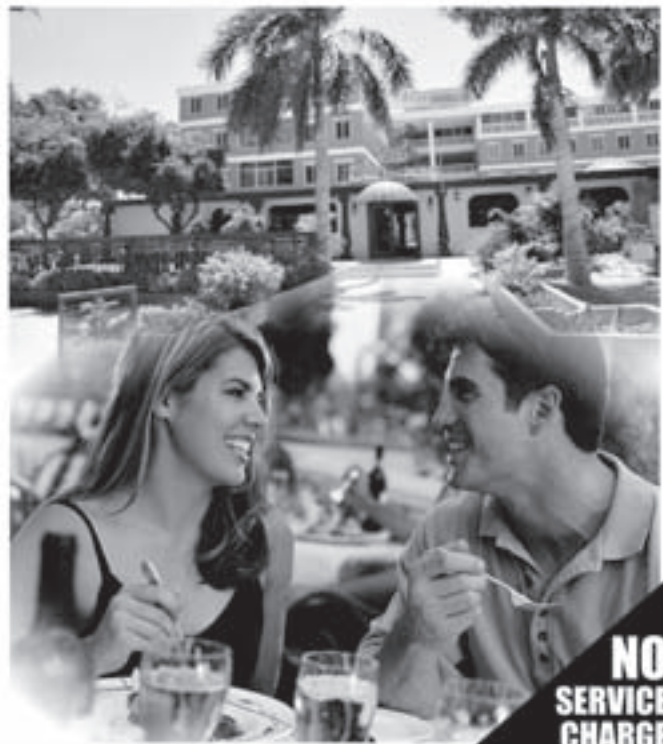
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Italy:

## New turmoil amid resignation of 5 in Berlusconi's party



Italian premier Enrico Letta gestures as he gives his speech at a meeting in Rome, Sept. 29, 2013. Former Premier Silvio Berlusconi on Sunday backpedaled somewhat in his strategy aimed apparently at collapsing Italy's fragile coalition government and triggering early elections, after some key supporters chafed at his orders to quit the Cabinet in a show of solidarity ahead of a Senate vote to strip him of his seat because of his tax-fraud conviction and prison sentence.

(AP Photo/Mauro Scrobogna, Lapresse)

ELISABETTA POVOLEDO

© 2013 New York Times

**ROME** - Italy faced growing political uncertainty Sunday, in the hours after five ministers in former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's center-right party resigned, setting off a new crisis that could put the political and financial stability of Europe at risk.

Prime Minister Enrico Letta was expected to meet with President Giorgio Napolitano

late Sunday afternoon to discuss how to move forward.

Letta's 5-month-old government, a broad coalition of politically antagonistic parties, has felt the strains of its differences since its inception in April. But tensions have increased since Berlusconi lost a final appeal in a tax fraud case last month.

Berlusconi is to begin serving a one-year sentence

- most likely under house arrest - in mid-October. The former prime minister, who is standing trial in other cases, has also been barred from holding public office, though the length of that ban is still under discussion. A parliamentary committee will meet Friday to decide whether to expel him from the Senate.

Berlusconi believes that he has been unjustly disqualified from the political arena by his adversaries, and has pledged to remain very much a player.

"I'm not tired of fighting," Berlusconi told supporters in Naples on Sunday. Speaking to a rally by telephone, he said he saw early elections as the only option out

of the crisis.

But Napolitano has said repeatedly that as Italy continues to reel under the impact of a two-year recession, an early vote is the least advantageous option.

Polls suggest that more elections would be likely to result in another stalemate, with no party getting enough votes to form a stable government.


Napolitano said Sunday that he would pursue other avenues before dissolving Parliament. "I will see what possibilities exist to continue with this legislature," he said. "It is the tradition of the president of the Republic to dissolve Parliament only when he's not able to



put together a government in the interests of the country."



Political commentators said that Berlusconi's decision was contrary to the interests of the country, throwing Parliament into chaos just days before the country is to present its budget plans for 2014.

On Friday, the International Monetary Fund had warned that Italy's economic outlook "remains weak, and the financial system is still vulnerable."

Last week, as tensions in Parliament grew, church leaders and industrialists warned that Italy could ill afford a government crisis with the country at economic risk. □



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# Filipino troops kill 7 Muslim rebels after hostage crisis

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP)

— Philippine troops killed seven more Muslim rebels in gunbattles in the coastal outskirts of a southern city they were clearing of bodies, bombs, weapons and possible booby traps following a three-week standoff with insurgents who held scores of people hostage, officials said Sunday. Army troops and special police forces killed six Moro National Liberation Front rebels who were hiding in a house in Zamboanga city's Santa Barbara community Sunday and refused to surrender. Another rebel was slain by troops in a clash Saturday in nearby Rio Hondo, one of five commu-

nities occupied by nearly 500 insurgents on Sept. 9, military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said.

Troops recovered seven assault rifles and a grenade launcher used by the slain rebels, he said.

"Definitely the worst is over," Zagala told reporters, but added that it would be dangerous for residents to return until government forces have finished a two-week inspection of the battered communities.

Defense and military officials declared the rebel standoff and hostage crisis over Saturday, saying 195 residents seized by the rebels as human shields had been rescued safely, escaped or were freed. More than 4,000 troops and po-



A suspected Muslim rebel arrives at a police station for processing in Zamboanga city, southern Philippines. The deadly three-week standoff between government troops and Muslim rebels, who taken nearly 200 people hostages has ended with all of the captives safe, officials announced Saturday Sept. 28, 2013.

(AP Photo)

lice killed 190 rebels, while 292 other insurgents were either captured or surrendered out of exhaustion and after running out of food and ammunition.

While troops remained as a backup force, police took charge Sunday of the house-to-house inspections in search of any more rebel holdouts and the dangerous leftovers from the standoff, which paralyzed the port city of nearly a million people.

Mayor Isabelle Climaco-Salazar said Zamboanga's city hall would be reopened Monday. A tribute will be given to the 18 soldiers, five police officers and about a dozen civilians who died in the rebel siege in the bustling port, which has crawled back to life after the fierce clashes that displaced about 130,000 people — more than a tenth of the city's population. Zamboanga officials were working on

a plan to rebuild hard-hit communities, where nearly 10,000 houses were burned by the rebels or got destroyed in the fighting. Officials will have to continue feeding and tending to tens of thousands of displaced residents who remained in 32 emergency shelters and have to be relocated to temporary settlements at some point, Climaco-Salazar said. Authorities were trying to determine whether Habier Malik, the most prominent of seven rebel commanders who led the siege, was dead. Troops found Malik's rebel identification card in one of the clothes of a slain rebel who resembled him, sparking speculation that he may have been killed.

A military official, however, said the slain rebel was Malik's aide, who also kept his international driver's license and temporary resident's certificate in Saudi Arabia, where the rebel commander once lived with his wife. The official, who was involved in efforts to identify the slain rebels, spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media. □

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## Chile:

# Ex-spy chief kills self before jail transfer

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — A Chilean military official says the country's former spy chief committed suicide shortly before he was to be transferred from a luxury prison for dictatorship-era military officials to a lockup with fewer benefits. Army Lt. Col. Claudio Rojas said retired Gen. Odladier Mena shot himself in the head Saturday in a stairwell outside of his home in Chile's capital. Mena had

taken advantage of prison benefits that allowed him to visit his home. The 87-year-old was the first director of the National Center of Information, the successor to dictator Augusto Pinochet's feared intelligence agency. In 2009, Mena was convicted in three 1973 murders tied to him and other military officials sent north to press the fight against political opponents. He began

his six-year prison sentence in 2009 and was scheduled to be released in Dec. 2014. President Sebastian Pinera announced earlier this week that the Cordillera prison for officials convicted of crimes against humanity, which had a pool and tennis courts, would be closed and its inmates transferred to Punta Peuco, another, less-luxurious special jail for human rights offenders. □





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## Rev. Jackson to mediate for US captive in Colombia

**ANNE-MARIE GARCIA**  
**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — The Rev. Jesse Jackson said Saturday that he had agreed to mediate in the case of a former U.S. soldier held captive by Colombia's largest guerrilla group since June, calling the American's release "imminent."

The U.S. civil rights activist announced his intervention in the case of Kevin Scott Sutay after meeting late into the previous night with leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

FARC and Colombian government negotiators have been holding peace talks in Havana since November 2012.

"We accept this obligation and opportunity to render service to Kevin Scott, his family and our nation," Jackson told reporters outside Havana's Hotel Nacional.

"We have made contact with the (U.S.) State Department urging them to contact the next of kin of Kevin Scott and let them know his release is imminent," added Jackson, who plans to travel to Colombia next week.

But after hearing the announcement, Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said on Twitter that "only the Red Cross will be authorized to facilitate the handover of the North American kidnapped by the FARC. We will not allow a media spectacle."

Santos' tweet repeated early statements that he would not send public figures to retrieve Sutay, insisting it be done discreetly by the International Red Cross.

Sutay, a former Army combat engineer and private who served in Afghanistan, was detained by the rebels in June while walking through the jungle south-east of the Colombian capital, Bogota. According to the FARC, he was wearing military fatigues and carrying surveillance equipment.

Earlier Saturday, the FARC issued a statement asking Jackson "to make available his experience and integrity to expedite Kevin Scott's release." It said it intends to free him unilaterally.

Jackson has travelled to Yugoslavia, Syria and Iraq to help secure the release of detained American citizens.



**Rev. Jesse Jackson, center, laughs during a visit with a group in the lobby of the Hotel Nacional in Havana, Cuba.**  
(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

He has visited Cuba on numerous occasions and met with both Fidel and Raul Castro. In 1984 he assisted in the release of 26 Cuban

prisoners.

Jackson said Friday upon arrival in Havana that he hopes to meet with American government subcontractor Alan Gross, who is

serving a 15-year prison sentence in Cuba after he was caught importing restricted communications equipment into the country. □

## USVI man sentenced in fatal 2011 parasailing accident

**CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP)** — A U.S. Virgin Islands boat captain charged with causing the death of a woman killed while parasailing has been sentenced to six months of home confinement.

Kyle Coleman also was ordered to serve one year of supervised release, pay \$1.4 million in restitution to the victim's family and perform 150 hours of community service with the U.S. Coast Guard. Police said

Coleman took Bernice Kraftcheck and her daughter on a parasailing tour in November 2011 amid heavy winds. The tow line broke, causing the women to fall in the water. Authorities said the women were still attached to the parasail as it gained speed, killing Kraftcheck and seriously injuring her daughter. Coleman pleaded guilty to operating the boat in a negligent manner. He was sentenced this weekend. □



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## China:

## Pilot free trade zone opens in reform push

KELVIN CHAN  
LOUISE WATT  
Associated Press

**BEIJING (AP)** — Operations formally kicked off Sunday at a new free trade zone in Shanghai that China's government has billed as a major step for financial reforms and economic experimentation, but significant changes look to be years away.

China's State Council formally announced rules for the new free trade zone on Friday. They outline goals to upgrade financial services, promote trade and improve governance as well as measures to encourage foreign investment in 18 sectors in the country's tightly regulated service industry.

There are also plans to ex-

At a ceremony marking its opening, Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng said the government hoped the zone would act as "an experimental field to conduct economic reform" and promote economic development nationwide. The Shanghai zone has been touted as the most important attempt at economic reform since the

gineering. Foreign-owned performing arts agencies and medical institutions will be allowed.

The sale of video game consoles, which is banned in China, will also be allowed, pending approval from authorities of individual games and systems.

Another initiative will permit foreigners to set up joint venture talent management agencies with local partners. The rules say the opening-up measures will be applicable to companies that are registered in the zone.

Foreign companies will also be allowed to provide some Internet services, though the official Xinhua News Agency reported before the launch that Internet restrictions would not be lifted, following a report by a Hong Kong newspaper that banned websites such as Facebook would be unblocked inside the zone. Dai Haibo, deputy secretary general of Shanghai's government and vice-director of the zone's management committee, said it would take three years to determine whether the zone's rules and system were effective. After three years, the country will build on the experience gleaned from the Shanghai free trade zone and there may be further reform goals, he told a news conference following the official opening ceremony. Wei Yao, a China economist at Societe Generale, said in a research note that setting up the zone in Shanghai, a city of "great strategic importance," was a clear sign that policymakers wanted to push for fast economic liberalization. □



Shanghai Municipality Communist Party Secretary Han Zheng, left, inaugurates the Shanghai Free Trade Zone during a ceremony in Pudong district, Shanghai Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013. China's first pilot free trade zone started operating in Shanghai on Sunday, billed as a test bed for the country's drive to deepen economic reform and providing a testing ground for free capital account convertibility of its currency.

(AP Photo/Carlos Barria)

State media reported that a first batch of 25 Chinese and foreign companies were granted licenses to register in the zone.

Eleven financial institutions, including Citibank and Singapore's DBS, were also cleared to operate in the zone.

The China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone is a nearly 29-square-kilometer (11-square-mile) district that covers four existing special trade zones in Pudong district, including one at the airport.

periment with the convertibility of China's tightly controlled currency, the yuan, on the capital account and let market forces rather than regulators set interest rates.

The zone is expected to serve as a laboratory for such financial experiments before they are rolled out elsewhere in China. No timeline was given for any changes, but rules in the zone will be introduced over a three-year period, according to the announcement.

establishment of the country's first special economic zone in 1980 in Shenzhen, next door to Hong Kong. That zone allowed in foreign investment aimed at harnessing cheap labor to build a manufacturing industry that became a driving force in helping China eventually become the world's second-biggest economy.

The government has pledged to open up 18 service industry sectors to foreign investment, including shipping, law and en-

## Portugal govt keeps austerity; elections near

BARRY HATTON  
Associated Press

**LISBON, Portugal (AP)** — Portugal's government says it won't stop its unpopular austerity measures, even if it's a big loser in Sunday's municipal elections. The election of mayors and councilors is the first nationwide ballot since the center-right coalition took office two years ago, weeks after a 78 billion euros (\$105 billion) bailout. The voting has no direct bearing on the government, but the ballot is expected to reflect the public mood.

The outcome could also have consequences for efforts by the 17 nations that share the euro currency to end their bloc's protracted financial crisis. Any political uncertainty in Portugal could fuel investor jitters about the eurozone's commitment to restoring fiscal health amid growing fears the ailing country may need a second bailout next year. Portugal is locked into a program of tax hikes and spending cuts in return for the bailout. But the measures have brought hardship, and the jobless rate stands at 16.5 percent. A third straight year of recession is expected in 2013, after a 3.2 percent contraction last year that was the country's worst economic performance in almost 40 years. Opinion polls have indicated government-backed mayors in some cities could lose their jobs, but Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho says he won't budge from his economic reform program whatever the outcome. "No political instability will come from these elections," Passos Coelho told a recent rally of his Social Democratic Party, which governs with the smaller Popular Party. The center-left Socialist Party, the main opposition party, is hoping voters turn their back on the government, with Socialist leader Antonio Jose Seguro calling for a gesture of "indignation" at the ballot box. □

## Workers decry French law closing stores on Sunday

GENNEVILLIERS, France (AP)

— Employees at two big home-improvement retailers are putting the screws to France's government to let their stores stay open on Sundays.

The protests at the Castora-

ma and Leroy Merlin chains cut to the heart of an economic conundrum here: many French view labor protections such as reduced opening hours as sacrosanct, but others say they are one reason the economy is flail-

ing.

Some employees led petition drives and wore T-shirts that read

"Yes Week End" after a judge ruled last week that 14 Paris-area stores in the chains had violated the law.

The stores got waivers or other last-minute exemptions to open this Sunday.

A 1906 French law established Sunday as a mandatory day off — with some exceptions — to help ensure rest and a certain quality of life. □





## Culminating at 22nd anniversary of Café the Plaza, free concerts set for Aruba Wine And Dine Restaurants!



**PALM BEACH** - As the seventh edition of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival is coming closer, the jazzy vibes are getting stronger on the island. Catching these vibes is easy this week, as there will be three free concerts preceding the big event, all held at Aruba Wine And Dine Restaurants. The first concert is held at Café the Plaza, when students of the School of Music will show what they're made of; showtime is at 7 pm. On Wednesday, it is time to get your salsa shoes out of the closet, as Sazon Cubano performs at the Arawak Garden. Sazon Cubano is a terrific band, which is specialized in Latin rhythms. Be sure to be at the Arawak Garden at 7.30 or earlier to get a good seat.

On Thursday, October 3 Luci and the Soul Brokers, also one of the superb bands of the Caribbean Jazz Festival, is going to take the stage at the MooMba Beach Bar at 7 pm. This band from Panama City plays self-composed music with funky, blues, rock and hip-hop influences and of course with a good dose of jazz. After the Festival, on Sun-

day 22, Café the Plaza in the Renaissance Marketplace is treating everyone to its birthday party with Gualao, a group of innovative musicians from Colombia.

The name gualao covers a new rhythm, created out of the indigenous music of the Colombian coast and the southern sierra. Gualao's 13-men band tells an untold musical story: most interesting! The band starts playing at 8 pm.

The anniversary of Café the Plaza deserves a short history lesson: 22 years ago Hans Nooter and Harry Koe-man took over a struggling restaurant in Harbortown, as the Renaissance Marketplace was then called. Their touch proved to be gold: as soon as the place changed ownership, patrons appeared as if by magic. The secret of the Dutch Touch of these two: really good value, a nice menu and great meals in a relaxed and very welcoming atmosphere. Last December, many, many friends came to say a final goodbye to Hans, who sadly died after a short illness. Hans is still sorely missed by all. □

## At the Radisson Aruba Resort: Mira Solo hosts sunset wine & cheese pairing

**PALM BEACH** - Important decision makers in the group travel industry enjoyed a sunset wine & cheese pairing with wine artist Monrick Croes, at Mira Solo Martini Bar just recently. General Manager Mark Lyttleton-Frances, Director of Sales & Marketing Arianne Valentino and their team members welcomed the dignitaries to the charming bar which offers expansive beach and sea views in cosmopolitan style, while serving trendy and classic cocktails.

The resort partnered with the Aruba Tourism Authority, De Palm Tours, Red Sail Sports, Eco Destination Management, Delta Airways, and Carlson Rezidor to produce a fun-filled and action-packed weekend of activities designed to introduce product Aruba to the visitors. Pictured here, the memorable reception, at Mira Solo Martini Bar, overlooking Palm Beach. The bar hosts a Wine, Cheese & Live Jazz afternoon every Thursday from 4:30 pm, with the best live jazz band on the island. □







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yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen every Monday. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes

to go wild when it comes to his cooking. Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till midnight. Start your day of right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing. A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to some of the best live bands of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are



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make.

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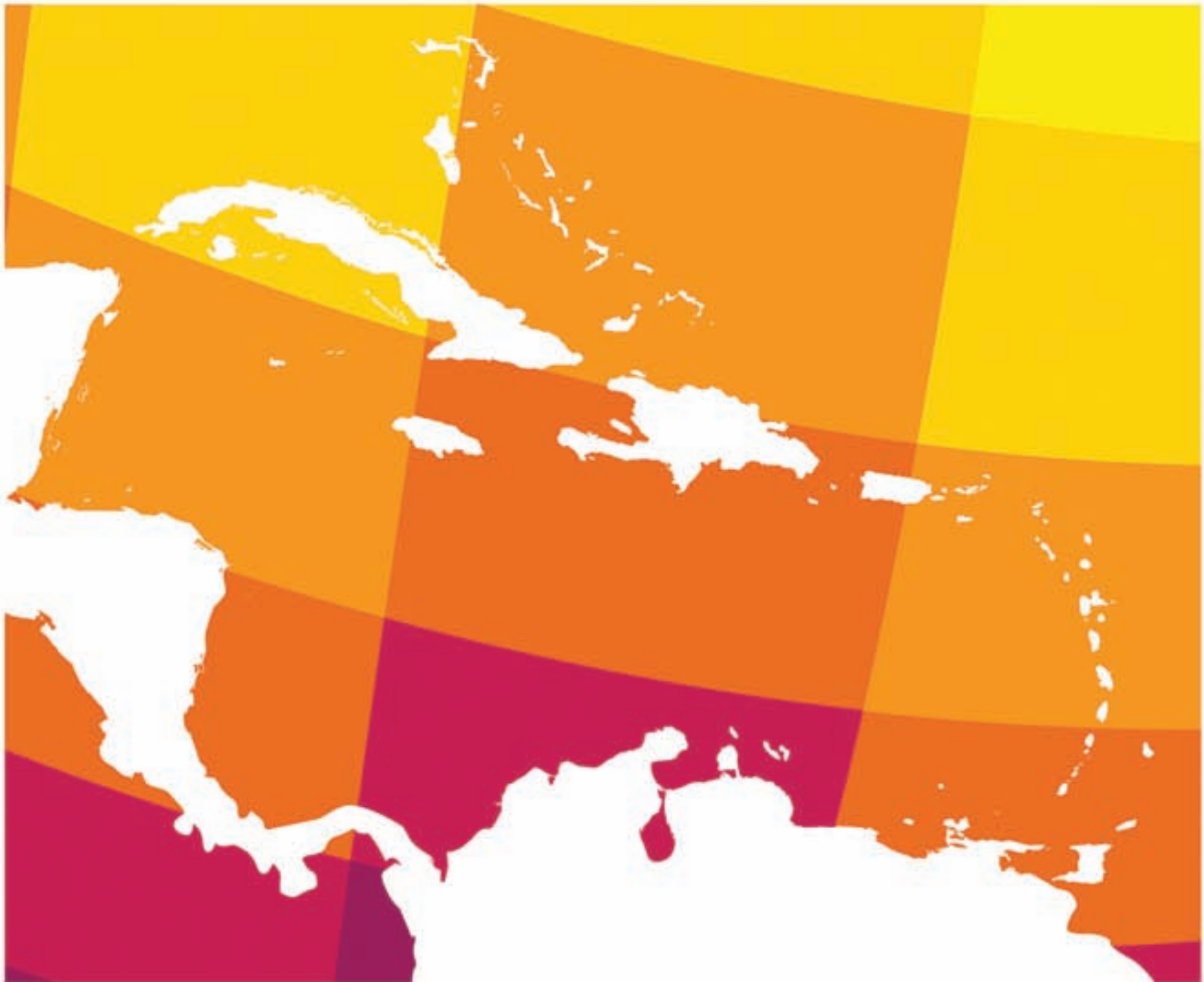
- One quart whole milk
- One cup of white sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda

Bring milk, sugar, and vanilla extract to a boil in a saucepan over high heat. Reduce heat to medium-low, and continue cooking, and continuously stirring until the milk has thickened and turned a caramel color, about 1 hour. Stir in baking soda. Continue cooking until the milk has reached a pudding consistency. Pour "dulce de leche" into a bowl and cool completely in the refrigerator. Enjoy! □



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Enter only this side
-  Right of way road
-  End of right of way road
-  Right of way at intersection
-  Oncoming traffic has  
right of way
-  Stop. Right of way ahead
-  Do not pass
-  No Left turn
-  No Right turn







## NFL Capsules

# Seattle 4-0 after 23-20 OT win over Texans

**The Associated Press**

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Steven Hauschka kicked a 45-yard field goal in overtime to give the Seattle Seahawks a 23-20 win over the Houston Texans on Sunday and the first 4-0 start in club history.

Houston (2-2) failed to score on two possessions in overtime. The Seahawks got the win on their second drive in overtime after rallying from a 20-3 deficit.

A key play on the winning drive came when Doug Baldwin caught a 7-yard pass and Kareem Jackson was penalized for unnecessary roughness for dumping him into the ground. That got Seattle in field goal range and Hauschka's kick came four plays later.

The Seahawks rallied to tie it at 20-20 on an interception return for a touchdown by Richard Sherman in the fourth quarter.

**LIONS 40, BEARS 32**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Reggie Bush's 37-yard touchdown run helped Detroit score 27 points in the second quarter and he accounted for 173 yards of offense to help the Lions beat Chicago.

Detroit (3-1) moved into a first-place tie with Chicago (3-1) in the NFC North. The Lions scored 24 straight points, including three TDs in a span of 3 minutes, 26



**Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Greg Jennings (15), catches the ball in the end zone to score a touchdown despite the challenge of Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback Cortez Allen (28) during their NFL football game at Wembley Stadium, London, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013.**

**Associated Press**

second, after Matt Forte's 53-yard TD run gave the Bears 10-6 lead early in the

second quarter. Jay Cutler, who had four turnovers, threw a pair of

touchdown passes and 2-point conversions in the final 4 minutes to pull Chi-

cago within eight points to make the score look respectable.

Lions receiver Kris Durham recovered the onside kick to seal the win.

**VIKINGS 34, STEELERS 27**

**LONDON (AP)** — Greg Jennings made two touchdown catches, Adrian Peterson ran for two scores and the Vikings' defense made a big stop with time running out to preserve a win over the Steelers.

Playing at Wembley Stadium, Everson Griffen stripped Ben Roethlisberger on the 6-yard line with 19 seconds left. Kevin Williams recovered to seal the victory.

Jennings made a 70-yard catch-and-run for a touchdown and Peterson had a 60-yard score to help offset two scores by Pittsburgh rookie running back Le'Veon Bell and give Minnesota (1-3) some hope of turning its season around.

The Steelers fell to 0-4 for the first time since 1968.

Vikings quarterback Matt Cassel, starting in place of injured Christian Ponder, finished 16 of 25 for 248 yards and two touchdowns.

Roethlisberger was 36 for 51 for 383 yards, with one touchdown and one interception.

**Continued on page 19**



**Oracle Team USA tactician Ben Ainslie, left, and skipper Jimmy Spithill arrive for the dock-out show prior to the 19th race of the America's Cup sailing event against Emirates Team New Zealand Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2013, in San Francisco**

**Associated Press**

## Ainslie eyes British team for America's Cup

**LONDON (AP)** — After helping Oracle to a memorable victory in the America's Cup, Ben Ainslie wants to win sailing's premier event with a British team.

The four-time Olympic champion says he will hold talks in the coming days about the possibility of entering a team from Brit-

ain for the next America's Cup.

Britain hasn't competed since 1964 and no British team has won in its 162-year history.

Ainslie told BBC radio on Sunday "we'll talk pretty honestly about whether we think it's realistic to get a campaign together,"

adding "none of us want to do it unless we've got a good shot of winning it."

Ainslie joined Oracle as tactician midway through the America's Cup and helped the U.S. team come from 8-1 down to beat Team New Zealand 9-8 on Wednesday. □



## NFLK Capsules

Continued from page 18

BRONCOS 52, EAGLES 20  
DENVER (AP) — The Broncos scored more points than they ever had in their 54-year history Sunday, led by Peyton Manning's four touchdown throws.

With two TD passes each to Demaryius Thomas and Wes Welker, Manning completed all but a half-dozen of his 34 throws for 327 yards. He didn't even step on the field in the fourth quarter.

Manning's 16 TD passes are the most in the first month of a season, besting the previous mark of 14 set by Don Meredith in 1966 and tied by Kurt Warner in 1999. Manning also joined Milt Plum in 1960 as the only quarterbacks to throw that many touchdown passes without an interception.

Manning got off to a rather slow start, but drove the Broncos (4-0) on a trio of long touchdown drives in the third quarter to make

this one another laughter against the Eagles (1-3).

CHARGERS 31, COWBOYS 20

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Philip Rivers threw for 401 yards and three touchdowns, including a 56-yarder to Antonio Gates.

The Chargers (2-2) had blown late leads in their two losses this season. On Sunday, they scored the final 20 points to beat Dallas (2-2).

Rivers short-armed a pass over the middle to Gates, who slid behind linebacker Sean Lee to haul it in and score with 6:54 to go.

Lee had intercepted Rivers on a deflected pass and returned it 52 yards for a touchdown and a 21-10 lead late in the second quarter. Dallas didn't score again.

Tony Romo moved the Cowboys to the San Diego 7 and hit Terrance Williams, who fumbled at the 1. San Diego's Richard Marshall recovered in the end zone with 2:42 left.

TITANS 38, JETS 13

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Jake Locker threw a career-high three touchdowns before being taken to the hospital with an injured right hip. Locker was hurt early in the third quarter when hit first by Muhammad Wilkerson after throwing an incomplete pass, then popped by Quinton Coples.

Alterraun Verner intercepted two passes and recovered a fumble, Karl Klug sacked Geno Smith and stripped him of the ball for a TD as the Titans turned Smith's four turnovers into 28 points. Ropati Pitoitua had two of Tennessee's five sacks as the Titans (3-1) continued their surprising start.

The Jets (2-2) couldn't overcome Smith's rookie mistakes.

REDSKINS 24, RAIDERS 14  
OAKLAND, California (AP) — Robert Griffin III threw a go-ahead touchdown pass late in the third quarter to help Washington overcome an early 14-point deficit for its first win of the



Seattle Seahawks' Steven Hauschka celebrates with holder Jon Ryan after kicking a 45-yard game-winning field goal during overtime against the Houston Texans in an NFL football game Sunday afternoon, Sept. 29, 2013, in Houston. The Seahawks won 23-20.

Associated Press

season.

David Amerson returned an interception for another score for the Redskins (1-3). Washington looked ready to extend the worst start

for the franchise since 2001 when they fell behind 14-0 after the first quarter thanks to a blocked punt touchdown and a scoring pass from Matt Flynn. □



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# Marlins' Alvarez throws odd no-hitter vs. Tigers

**STEVEN WINE**  
**AP Sports Writer**

**MIAMI (AP) --** With the bases loaded, two outs and the score 0-0 in the bottom of the ninth, Henderson Alvarez stood in the Miami

Marlins' on-deck circle, bat in hand, hoping to complete his no-hitter.

Alvarez had blanked the Detroit Tigers for nine innings - and briefly, mistakenly thought he had

pitched a no-hitter. But the Marlins needed a run for him to achieve the feat.

"I was nervous and anxious," he said through a translator. "I started praying, 'Please give us a run.'"



Miami Marlins' Henderson Alvarez, center, celebrates with teammates after pitching a no-hitter against the Detroit Tigers after an interleague baseball game, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, in Miami. The Marlins won 1-0.

Associated Press

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I was hoping for a wild pitch."

That's exactly how Miami scored. Giancarlo Stanton crossed the plate standing up when a breaking ball skipped to the backstop, and Alvarez had his no-hitter, beating the Tigers on the final day of the regular season Sunday, 1-0.

Alvarez - who had been due to hit next - took off his batting helmet and began to celebrate with teammates in the on-deck circle while still wearing his batting gloves. When the happy hopping scrum finally broke up, pitcher Jose Fernandez came away holding Alvarez's uniform top.

"They were pulling on my jersey and choking me, so I took it off," Alvarez explained.

Later, the 23-year-old Venezuelan went into the stands to hug his pregnant wife and kiss her belly.

Of the 282 no-hitters in history, it was the only one to end on a wild pitch, STATS said. And it was the first walk-off complete-game no-hitter since Virgil Trucks of the Tigers threw one on May 15, 1952 against Washington.

"That's the beauty of baseball," Marlins manager Mike Redmond said. "You never know what you're going to see. On the last day of the season, what a treat."

Alvarez needed the run for his no-hitter to be official, because a Major League Baseball ruling in 1991 said only complete games of nine or more innings with no hits count as no-hitters. Alvarez got it when Luke Putkonen's first pitch to

pinch-hitter Greg Dobbs was low and inside, eluding catcher Brayan Pena.

Alvarez (5-6) struck out four, walked one and hit a batter against a patchwork Tigers lineup on the last day of the season. When he closed out the top of the ninth, he pumped one fist and then both, thinking the game was over.

He remained confused until he got to the dugout and a teammate explained the situation to him.

"With the emotion and nerves, I didn't realize we hadn't scored a run yet," a sheepish Alvarez said. "At the time I thought the game was 1-0. I threw my hands up and thought the game was over."

Redmond said he would have sent Alvarez out to pitch the 10th inning, but that wasn't necessary.

The right-hander capped a dismal season for the Marlins, who had the worst record in the NL at 62-100. He pitched the third no-hitter this year, joining Homer Bailey of Cincinnati and Tim Lincecum of San Francisco. It was the fourth season-ending no-hitter ever, and first since Mike Witt of the Angels threw a perfect game at Texas in 1984. In 1975, Vida Blue and three Oakland relievers combined to no-hit the Angels and in 1892, Bumpus Jones of Cincinnati did it against Pittsburgh, STATS said.

With the Tigers' playoff slot settled, they rested four starters and had pulled three others by the seventh inning. Miguel Cabrera, who won his third consecutive batting title, never stepped to the plate. □





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# Cabrera wins 3rd straight AL batting title

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Miguel Cabrera became the first player in more than two decades to win three straight AL batting titles, and Michael Cuddyer brought the NL crown to mile-high Coors Field for the eighth time in 21 years. Cabrera fell short of his 2012 season, when the Detroit third baseman became baseball's first Triple Crown winner since Boston's Carl Yastrzemski in 1967. Cabrera hit a career-high .348 and finished well ahead of Minnesota's Joe Mauer, who was second at .324.

"I still had a good season," he said. "I have the same numbers I had last year, and we won the division." Cabrera's 44 home runs were second to the 53 by Baltimore's Chris Davis, and he finished second in RBIs, one behind Davis' 138. Cabrera batted .330 last year with 44 homers and 139 RBIs.

Cabrera is the first right-handed batter in either league to win three straight batting titles since Rogers Hornsby's six straight for the St. Louis Cardinals from 1920-25. Cabrera became just the fifth player to win three consecutive AL crowns, joining Nap Lajoie (1901-03), Ty Cobb (1907-09, 1911-15 and 1917-19), Rod Carew (1972-75) and Wade Boggs (1985-88).

Cuddyer also outdistanced the rest of his league with a .331 average, 10 points ahead of Atlanta's Chris Johnson. Cuddyer had never hit higher than .284. "It was nothing that I ever expected, and I really can't wrap my head around it yet," Cuddyer said. "It just goes to show



**Detroit Tigers' Miguel Cabrera (24) follows through on a base hit against the Miami Marlins in the first inning of an interleague baseball game on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013, in Miami.**

that no matter what time you're at in your career, something like this can happen if you continue to work hard."

Andres Galarraga (1994), Larry Walker (1998, '99 and '01), Todd Helton ('00), Matt Holliday ('07) and Carlos Gonzalez ('10) also won batting titles with the Rockies.

Pittsburgh's Pedro Alvarez and Arizona's Paul Gold-

schmidt tied for the NL home run lead with 36, giving the Pirates a share of the crown for the first time since Willie Stargell won it in 1973. The total was the fewest for either league leader since San Diego's Fred McGriff won with 35 in 1992. Goldschmidt's 125 RBIs topped the NL.

Boston's Jacoby Ellsbury stole 52 bases and led the AL for the third time. The

New York Mets' Eric Young Jr. swiped two bases Sunday and was first in the NL with 46.

Young's father led the NL in stolen bases with 53 for the Rockies in 1996.

"Now after it's all said and done, it's a great feeling that I was able to do it. Like I said, I'm glad we finished the season on a winning note," said Young, acquired from Colorado in

June. "I'm proud of myself. That's my craft, stolen bases, and you always pride yourself in what your craft is."

Clayton Kershaw of the Los Angeles Dodgers led the big leagues in ERA at 1.83, the lowest since Atlanta's Greg Maddux was at 1.63 in 1995. Kershaw became the first pitcher to lead the majors three years in a row since Maddux from 1993-95.

"I try not to take that lightly," Kershaw said. "It's a huge honor."

Detroit's Anibal Sanchez led the AL for the first time at 2.57.

"I'm happy for the ERA title," he said. "But it's not about numbers. It's about getting ready for the playoffs."

Texas' Yu Darvish topped the major leagues in strikeouts with 277, the most in the majors since Randy Johnson's 290 for Arizona in 2004 and the highest AL total since Pedro Martinez fanned 284 for Boston in 2000. With 232, Kershaw led the NL for the second time in three seasons.

Pittsburgh finished at 94-68, ending its record streak of consecutive losing seasons at 20.

In its first AL season, Houston went 51-111 for the most defeats by a team since Arizona lost the same amount in 2004. The Astros lost their last 15 games, the lengthiest season-ending losing streak since the 1899 Cleveland Spiders dropped their last 16. Houston's 324 losses over three years matched the 1917 Philadelphia Athletics for third most in major league history behind the 1962-64 New York Mets (340) and the 1963-65 Mets (332), according to STATS. □





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## Johnson wins for record 8th time at Dover

**DAN GELSTON**  
**AP Sports Writer**

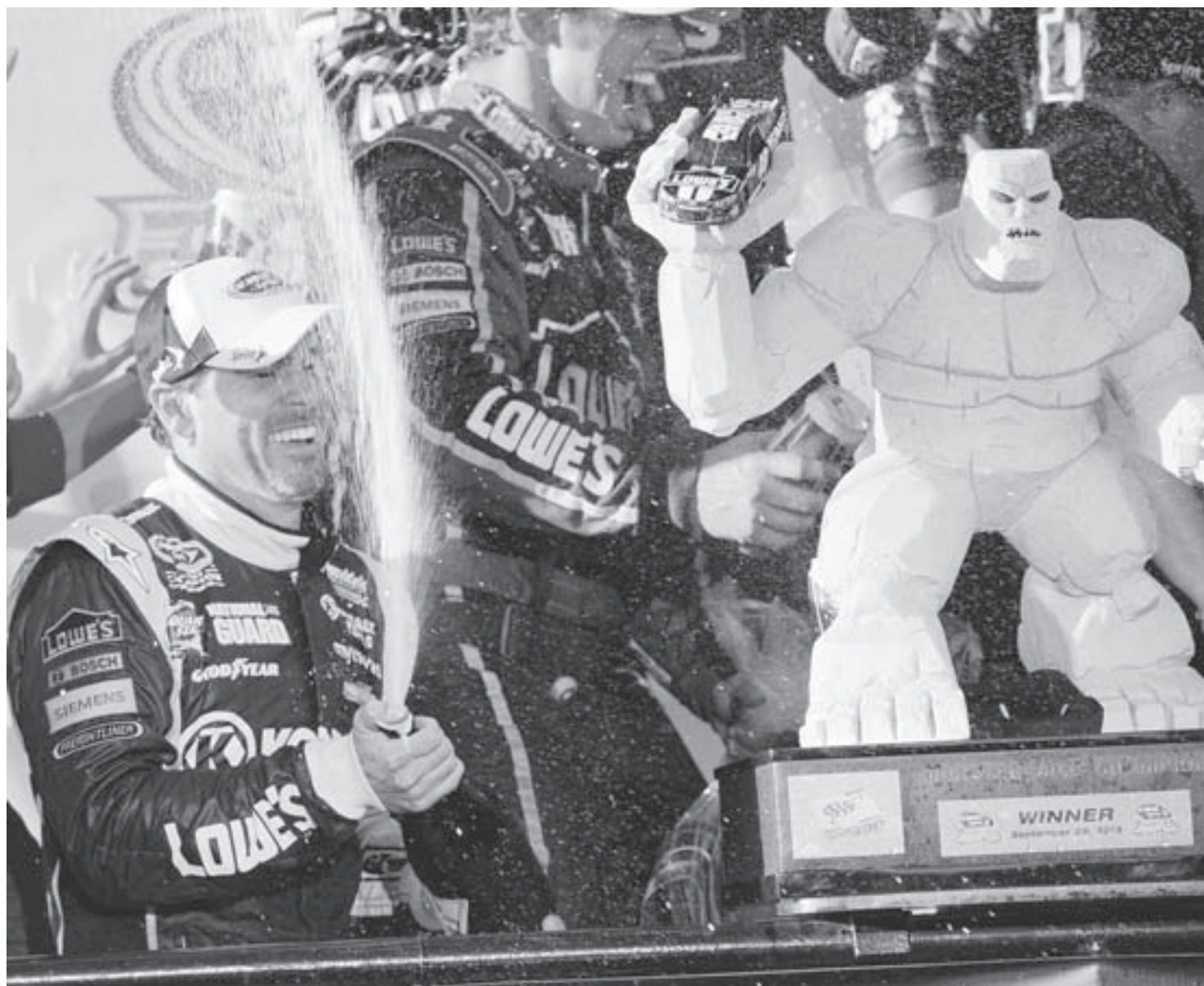
**DOVER, Delaware (AP)** — Jimmie Johnson held off a teammate, passed a pair of Hall of Famers, and dominated once more at Dover.

His latest win at his favorite track put the Chase field on notice that his run at a sixth championship in the No. 48 car is gathering steam. Johnson never let Dale Earnhardt Jr. catch him down the stretch Sunday and won for a record eighth time at Dover International Speedway.

His slice of track history was more than just another milestone to tack on his bio. Johnson had shared the mark of seven wins on the concrete mile with Bobby Allison and Richard Petty.

"Truthfully, it was the first thought that went through my mind when I crossed the finish line," Johnson said. "It wasn't long after I thought about the impact of winning in the Chase."

Johnson's win bumped him from third to second in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship standings. Matt Kenseth, who won the first two Chase races, holds an eight-point over Johnson as the series heads to Kansas for the fourth race. The entire top 10 was made up of Chase drivers. Joey Logano, Jeff Gordon and Kyle Busch rounded out the top five. Kevin Harvick, Kenseth, Ryan Newman, Greg Biffle and Clint Bowyer completed the top 10. "You've got to win when you're at your best track," Johnson said. "We had to win here today. I think any points on the 18 or 20 would have been a very good day. Max points, it's an awesome day."



**Jimmie Johnson, left, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, at Dover International Speedway in Dover, Del.**

**Associated Press**

Not so much for Earnhardt, who had one of the fastest cars, but he missed pit road and gave up the lead early in the race. He had a strong enough No. 88 Chevrolet to get back into the race and contend for his first win of the season but couldn't pass Johnson.

"We left everybody in the mirror. We were clicking off some laps," Earnhardt said. "But just not fast enough to get to Jimmie."

Kenseth kept his points lead even as he fell short in trying to become the first

driver to win the first three Chase races.

"For how bad I felt like we struggled with the car, that was a decent finish," Kenseth said.

Johnson dominated as he usually does at Dover and led 243 of the 400 laps to help extend his Chase record with his 23rd career win in 93 starts in NASCAR's version of the playoffs. He swept Dover in 2002 and 2009 and won races in 2005, 2010 and 2012.

He jumped a restart and served a pass-through pen-

alty that cost him the win in the spring race.

Crew chief Chad Knaus brought the same car back for this one and, this time, Johnson was pretty much flawless.

Johnson has his sights set on a bigger piece of NASCAR history. He's in the hunt for his sixth Cup championship, which would put him one behind Petty and Dale Earnhardt Sr. for most in series history.

"Jimmie is probably the most underrated champion we have in this industry,"

Knaus said. "He is by far and above the most powerful driver over the course of the last 25, 35 years in this sport."

Johnson caught a huge break when Earnhardt slowed during a green-flag pit stop and missed the entrance to pit road. He went from holding a 3.7-second lead on Johnson to trailing by more than 9 seconds after he finally made his stop. Johnson took the lead — and took off for his 65th victory in 428 career starts. □

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## Atlanta, Minnesota to meet in WNBA finals

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Angel McCoughtry led Atlanta to its third WNBA finals spot in four years, scoring 27 points in the Dream's 67-53 victory over the defending champion Indiana Fever on Sunday. Seeking their first title, the Dream swept the best-of-three Eastern Conference finals to set up a WNBA finals series against Western Conference champion Minnesota, which swept Phoenix. Tamika Catchings had 24 points and six rebounds to lead Indiana, which was trying to become the first team to win consecutive titles since Los Angeles in 2001 and 2002. "I've been through so much," McCoughtry said. "It means so much more when you can get to this

point after what you went through." McCoughtry willingly played a decoy role at times. Coach Fred Williams designed sets that had her run away from the ball. Those actions helped Atlanta dominate inside in Game 2 to the tune of 14 layups, 48 points in the paint and a 43-33 edge on the glass. Dream center Erika de Souza added 12 points and eight rebounds. "Angel really sacrifices a lot to get our teammates open," Williams said. "When Angel cuts, that takes two (defenders) away. I'm going to slide somebody in there on the weak side. I compliment Angel for making that happen." McCoughtry scored 11 points in the third quarter

to help the Dream break open a game they led 34-33 at halftime. Drafted with the No. 1 overall pick in 2009, McCoughtry has won back-to-back scoring titles, started two All-Star games and made the WNBA's all-defensive team. She has reached the playoffs every season, falling just shy of titles in 2010 and 2011. At Phoenix, Maya Moore scored 27 points and Seimone Augustus had 22 as the Lynx beat the Mercury 72-65 Sunday to advance to the WNBA finals for the third straight year. Minnesota will open the finals on Friday at home against Atlanta. Diana Taurasi had 21 points for Phoenix, but was 6 of 21 from the field. Candice Dupree added 17 points, while



Atlanta's Angel McCoughtry (35) celebrates as her teammates leave the floor after defeating Indiana in Game 2 of the WNBA basketball Eastern Conference finals on Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013, in Indianapolis. Atlanta won 67-53 to advance to the finals. Associated Press

No. 1 draft pick Brittney Griner was held to six points and 10 rebounds. The Lynx swept Atlanta in the 2011 finals and lost to Indiana in four games last season. Minnesota led by as many as 13 in the fourth quarter, but Taurasi hit a 3-pointer and another basket to cut the lead to 69-63 with 1:24 remaining. Dupree got loose for a layup with 33

seconds left to get Phoenix within 69-65. The Lynx, who won eight of nine at the end of regular season, have won all four of their playoff games in the postseason, winning by an average of 12 points a game. Minnesota won all seven meetings with the Mercury this year and has beaten Phoenix 14 straight times dating to 2011. □

## Rui Costa edges Rodriguez for cycling world title

**ANDREW DAMPF**  
AP Sports Writer

**FLORENCE, Italy (AP)** — Rui Costa of Portugal prevailed over a star-studded field to win a grueling road race at the cycling world championships Sunday, edging Joaquin Rodriguez of Spain in a two-man sprint finish. Rodriguez attacked several times in the final lap of a hilly circuit but Rui Costa caught him in the finishing straight and easily won the sprint for the biggest victory of his career. In the final kilometer, Rodriguez turned around and said something to Rui Costa.

"He told me to pass him," Rui Costa said after putting on the rainbow jersey. "Obviously I didn't want to



Alberto Rui Costa, of Portugal, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the gold medal in the men's elite road race event, at the road cycling world championships, in Florence, Italy, Sunday.

pass him. Then it was just a tactical game. I was just hoping my legs wouldn't fail me and they didn't."

Rui Costa clocked 7 hours, 25 minutes, 44 seconds over the marathon-like 272-kilometer (169-mile)

route to become the first Portuguese winner in the race's 86-year history. The 26-year-old Rui Costa has won three stages at the Tour de France, one in 2011 and two this year, and he also won the Tour de Suisse this year and last. Rodriguez crossed with the same time and Alejandro Valverde of Spain edged local favorite Vincenzo Nibali of Italy for third, 15 seconds behind. "The only thing that counts is to win and I didn't win today," Rodriguez said. "Rui Costa had had the race of his life." Rui Costa, whose full name is Rui Alberto Faria Da Costa, has been a teammate of Valverde's on the Movistar trade team but he will

join Lampre next year. It was Valverde's record fifth podium but he has still never won. "I'm not happy with third now but I think later I will be, and also with Purito's (Rodriguez's) silver. It was a good day for Spain," Valverde said. "Although I would be happier with gold." The course started in Lucca near the coast and ended with 10 laps of a difficult 16.6-kilometer (10.3-mile) circuit in and around Florence. For more than six hours, heavy rain fell. But the sun eventually came out and dried the course for the final lap. Still, the conditions resulted in only 61 of 208 riders finishing. □



# US Home Prices: Heating Up, If Not Yet Bubbling

**ROBERT J. SHILLER**

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Home prices have been rising rapidly, so much so that there is talk that we are entering another national bubble.

In fact, according to the S&P/Case-Shiller Composite-10 Home Price Index, which Karl Case of Wellesley College and I developed, home prices in the United States were up 18.4 percent in real, inflation-corrected terms in the 16 months that ended in July. During the housing bubble that preceded the 2008 financial crisis, the largest 16-month increase wasn't much bigger: 22.7 percent, for the period ended in July 2004.

Is it possible that we are lapsing into what I call a bubble mentality - a self-reinforcing cycle of popular belief that prices can only go higher?

Some answers arise from a study that Case and I have been conducting since 2003. Under the auspices of the Yale School of Management, we've been sending out annual questionnaires to random samples of recent home buyers in four United States cities: Boston, Milwaukee, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Last year, we reported on our project at the Brookings Institution in a paper we wrote with Anne Thompson of McGraw-Hill Construction.

We updated the survey in May and June. The results suggest that though we are not in a bubble now, there are troubling signs that we may be heading toward one. Out of 2,000 questionnaires sent to home buyers, we received 368 responses. We asked the respondents how much they thought home prices would rise both in the next year and in the longer term - each of the next 10 years.

The short-term expectations were somewhat high, with respondents saying they anticipated a 5.7 percent increase, on average, in the next year. (That's close to the implied home price appreciation of 5.6 percent in the home price futures market at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.)

These projections were

estate is the best investment for long-term holders, who can just buy and hold through the ups and downs of the market." In 2004, some 84.2 percent of respondents agreed. But the percentage has been generally declining ever since, bottoming last year at 66.5 percent. While that level may still seem high, we should remember

swers didn't suggest a bubble mentality, though the theme of temporarily low interest rates remained. In summary, Americans are still relatively sober about housing. They aren't showing "irrational exuberance" about home investing to the degree they did in the past, at least not yet. But neither are they being completely realistic. In reading the most recent answers, I see no signs that home buyers have learned the lesson I tried to convey in the second edition of my book "Irrational Exuberance" in 2005. That message was that existing-home prices have shown virtually no tendency to trend upward in real, inflation-corrected terms over the last century. While land is limited, it's only a small component of home value in most places. New construction often brings down the value of older homes, which wear out and go out of fashion, dragging down prices. It's as if people are applying to housing an idea described by Frederick Lewis Allen in his 1931 book, "Only Yesterday." Before the stock market collapsed in 1929, he said, people thought that "every crash of the past few years had been followed by a recovery, and that every recovery had ultimately brought prices to a new high point. Two steps up, one step down, two steps up again - that was how the market went." Well, people have certainly been right that there will always be steps up and down. Unfortunately, there is no certainty that the ups will outnumber the downs. People who are now inclined to buy a home are most often just thinking that we are gradually recovering from a recession and that this is a good time to buy. □



**A home-buyer survey suggests that while the nation isn't in a housing bubble, there are some troubling signs that it's heading toward one.** (Minh Uong/The New York Times)

much higher than those in 2011, when respondents anticipated only a 1.6 percent increase, and somewhat above those of 2012, when the expectation was 4.0 percent. Still, in 2004, just before the peak in home prices, short-term expectations were far loftier, at 8.7 percent.

What's more, long-term expectations in the current survey remained relatively modest, at 4.2 percent a year for the next 10 years. At that rate, if consumer inflation is modest, at, say, 2 percent a year, real prices would rise only about 2.2 percent annually, and we wouldn't return to the December 2005 peak in real home prices until 2031.

We also posed this question in the survey: "Do you agree with the following statement: Real

that these are people who have just bought a home. (The level was up a little in 2013, to 70.4 percent.) When we asked these questions near the height of the bubble in 2004, especially in the booming markets like Los Angeles and San Francisco, home buyers tended to use terms that suggested bubble thinking - phrases like "limited land," "high demand for housing," "population growth," "everyone wants to be here" and "buyers willing to pay any asking price." There was also much talk about low interest rates, and how they might soon rise, even though the 30-year mortgage rate, then at just over 6 percent, was much higher than the current level of about 4.5 percent. In this year's survey, the an-

## Plan would give ADM tax breaks to stay in Illinois

**Plan would give ADM tax breaks**

**to stay in Illinois** -- Illinois lawmakers are considering a tax incentive package in hopes of persuading agribusiness giant Archer Daniels Midland Company not to move its global headquarters out of the state. The proposal filed this weekend in the Illinois House would give ADM a 10 percent break on utility taxes for up to 30 years and a credit against some state income tax withholdings. The value of the incentives was not disclosed. The package was introduced by state Rep. John Bradley, a Democrat from Marion who is chairman of the House Revenue and Finance Committee. The committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday in Chicago to consider "investment tax credits," though specific legislation to be discussed has not been posted.

Bradley did not return phone messages left Friday and Saturday. Lawmakers are scheduled to return to Springfield in late October for a six-day fall session.

ADM, which has been based in the central Illinois city of Decatur for more than four decades, announced Monday it's looking for a new headquarters with better global access. The company said it would have about 100 employees and would become home to a new technology center that would add another 100 workers over the next few years.

The bulk of operations and some 4,400 jobs would stay in Decatur, which would keep the title of North American headquarters.

Company officials won't discuss which locations they're considering or how long it will take to make the decision. A spokesman for Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Monday the city is among the candidates and that Chicago would do its best to keep ADM's global headquarters in Illinois. ADM is No. 27 on the Fortune 500 list and has about 30,000 employees around the world, about half of them overseas, spokeswoman Victoria Podesta said. □

## Germany's Siemens to cut up to 15,000 jobs

**BERLIN (AP)** — Germany engineering company Siemens says it will cut up to 15,000 jobs worldwide by the end of 2014. German news agency dpa reported Sunday that the compa-

ny wants to cut 5,000 jobs in Germany and another 10,000 jobs abroad. A Siemens spokesman, whose name was not given, told dpa that the cutbacks will not necessarily mean that

all the workers will lose their jobs, since some could be transferred to other departments. Siemens could not immediately be reached for comment. The Munich-based company has

around 370,000 employees and makes a wide range of industrial machinery, including trains, power generators and transmission equipment, and medical scanners. □



**Morgenson Column:**

# Fair Game: Why Judges Are Scowling At Banks

**GRETCHEN MORGENSON**  
© 2013 New York Times

Last week, for the first time since the financial crisis, the government faced off in court against a major bank over lending practices during the mortgage mania. Lawyers for the Justice Department contend that Countrywide Financial, a unit of Bank of America, misrepresented the quality of mortgages it sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the taxpayer-owned mortgage finance giants, starting in 2007. Fannie and Freddie incurred gross losses of \$850 million on the defective loans and net losses of \$131 million, the government said.

Bank of America disagrees. Its lawyers say Countrywide did not defraud Fannie or Freddie.

This case is undoubtedly big, but it is only one of many mortgage-related matters inching through the judicial system. And what is notable about some of the lower-profile matters is the tone and tack federal judges are taking in their rulings. District court judges are not generally known as flamethrowers, but some seem to be losing patience with the banks.

For decades leading up to the foreclosure debacle, plaintiffs' lawyers say, judges generally took the side of lenders when borrowers came to court complaining of problematic lending or predatory loan servicing. Many judges still do. But some are getting tough, perhaps having seen too many examples of dubious bank behavior.

"Maybe the judges are tired of the diet of baloney sandwiches the banks have been feeding them," said April Charney, a foreclosure defense lawyer who for years represented troubled borrowers at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid in Florida. She is now in private practice.

Two recent rulings - one in New York involving Bank of America and one in Massachusetts involving Wells Fargo - serve as examples.

In the Wells Fargo case, a ruling Sept. 17 by Judge William G. Young of U.S. District Court was especially stinging.

In it, he required Wells Fargo to provide him with a corporate resolution signed by its president and a majority of its board stating that they stand behind the conduct of the bank's lawyers in the case.

The second case arose after Edwin Ramos and Michelle Ava Stouber-Ramos

filed for bankruptcy and had the first and second mortgage on their Tampa, Fla., condominium discharged by the court. That kind of discharge protects a borrower from any attempts to collect the debts as a personal liability.

Bank of America received notice of the discharge in September 2010. But in spring 2012, the bank began sending letters to the Ramoses, saying their \$26,991 second mortgage

was "seriously delinquent" and demanding that they pay the amount owed immediately. Otherwise, the bank said, it would proceed with "collection action."

According to Michael H. Schwartz, a lawyer in White Plains who represented the borrowers, Ramos started getting three phone calls a day from the bank, demanding repayment. When Ramos advised the bank's representatives that

the debt had been expunged in a bankruptcy proceeding, he was told "too bad," according to a court filing.

The phone calls and letters continued even after Schwartz went back to court to ask that Bank of America be sanctioned for illegal attempts to collect the debt.

During this time, Bank of America sold the servicing rights on the first mortgage to another company, which soon began sending its own demand letters to the Ramoses.

This month, the matter came before Robert D. Drain, a federal bankruptcy judge in New York. Drain found Bank of America in contempt of the debt discharge order protecting the Ramoses and required the bank to pay Schwartz's legal bills in the case. The judge also ordered the bank to pay \$10,000 a month in sanctions to the Ramoses until it stopped making the repayment demands.

Drain acknowledged that it wasn't a lot of money to Bank of America. But, he said, he hoped that its lawyers would get the message. "This is not just a stupid mistake" by the bank, the judge said. "This is a policy." □



**A customer uses a Bank of America ATM in downtown Charlotte, N.C. Last week, the government faced off in court against a major bank over lending practices during 'mortgage mania.' Lawyers for the Justice Department contend that Countrywide Financial, a unit of Bank of America, misrepresented the quality of mortgages it sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.**

(AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

## Hitting panic button as BlackBerry's future in doubt

**IAN AUSTEN**  
© 2013 New York Times

**OTTAWA, Ontario** - What is a BlackBerry user to do? After teaching the world to type on tiny buttons, BlackBerry could soon be leaving the business of making phones - leaving fewer options for a vocal minority still committed to phones with its once popular physical keyboard.

"It's not good, not good at all," said Gord Rosko, the president of GR Communications, a consulting firm in Edmonton, Alberta.

Rosko said he has used BlackBerrys for about nine years.

"What I call my fat Polish fin-

gers have a hard time with touch-screen keyboards," he said. "So I'm going to keep using this thing until I can't anymore."

The possibility that BlackBerry would exit the handset business was only reinforced Friday, when the company announced disastrous financial results, including a quarterly loss of nearly \$1 billion.

In the last few years, most smartphone users have switched to touch-screen models, like the iPhone, that use virtual keyboards that appear on a glass screen.

That has left few good alternatives for people like

Rosko, especially beyond BlackBerry.

Charles Golvin, an analyst at Forrester who tracks the handset market, offered simple advice for people sticking to a physical keyboard.

"The way you now interact with phones is through touch screens. Get over it," he said. "Maybe the message isn't just get over it; it's give touch screens a chance."

Still, the chances that some company will try to pick up BlackBerry's single-digit market share are good. Ted Schadler, Forrester's vice president and principal analyst, said he expected

some companies to experiment with keyboards.

"Then there's a big question mark of whether people will go for them," he said.

While there remains a chance that BlackBerry will continue to churn out handsets, the company's results Friday underscored how big of a challenge that would be.

Because the handset business requires a large sales volume to be profitable and to sustain development, many analysts anticipate that BlackBerry will focus its remaining resources on software and services for corporations. □



## Mutts



## 6 Chix



## Blondie



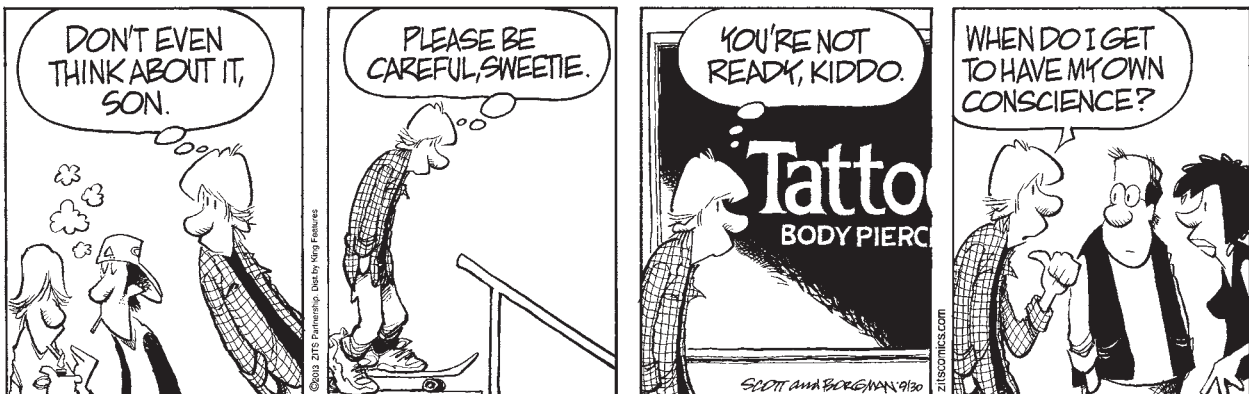
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		1	9		7	3		
		9		4		2		
3	6						5	9
9			6		4			5
	1						4	
7			8		1			3
2	8						3	4
		3		6		7		
		4	2		8	1		

Difficulty Level ★

9/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

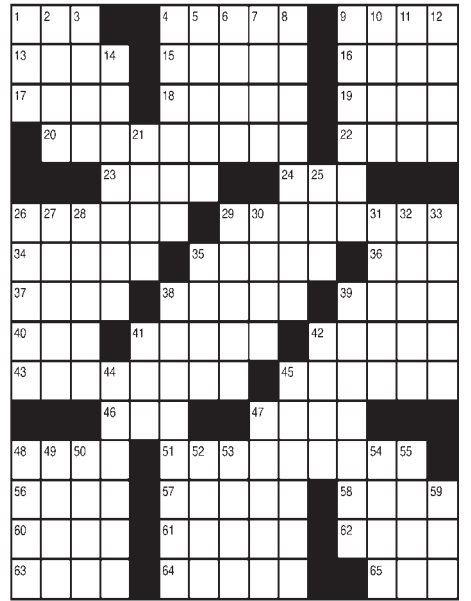
8	3	5	6	4	9	2	1	7
6	7	1	3	2	5	8	4	9
2	4	9	7	1	8	3	6	5
5	1	7	4	3	6	9	8	2
3	6	8	5	9	2	1	7	4
9	2	4	8	7	1	6	5	3
1	5	2	9	8	4	7	3	6
7	9	6	1	5	3	4	2	8
4	8	3	2	6	7	5	9	1

### ACROSS

- Japan's dollar
- Worrier's stomach woe
- Use foul language
- Way out
- Lasso's loop
- Perched upon
- Reasonable
- Frolics
- Lose color
- Delight
- Melt
- Talks informally
- Cool cucumber
- Burning
- Afternoon shows
- box; larynx
- Female horses
- "Hooray!"
- in a blue moon; rarely
- Exhausted
- African nation
- Printer owner's purchase
- Frenzied enthusiasm
- West Point student
- Learning disability
- Thin candles
- Mont Blanc or the Matterhorn
- Indian robe
- Shapeless mass
- Hat, purse or belt, e.g.
- Sled race
- Tales
- Chef
- Actor James Jones
- Uneven
- Up to the task
- Membership fees
- Fight off
- Heaven above
- Affirmative
- Test

### DOWN

- Scotch and bar order
- Gush forth
- Balcony
- Bulldoze; level
- Malia, to Sasha
- Stay away from
- Fair; attractive
- the platter clean; eats everything
- Shriver or Bello
- Vicinity
- Wear away
- Gung-ho
- Injections
- Skippy skirt



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/30/13

### Saturday's Puzzle Solved

HALT	LOANS	SAID
UTAH	IDIOM	IDLE
TONE	VOLGA	MAKE
SPEAKER	GRAMMAR	
	TED	TITLE
ABBEY	MAN	TRACT
DEAR	JET	MASTER
ALL	PANTHER	TAU
MISTER	LET	MISS
SEARS	GEM	FACES
	OTHER	MAR
STETSON	FIN	AGLE
PORT	VEGAN	CAIN
EDGE	EVASER	AGED
DOOR	LASER	SANS

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9/30/13

- Morning hour
- Still green, as bananas
- Weaving frames
- "O", All Ye Faithful
- Sports network
- Said again
- Lounging robe
- Salt Lake City's state
- Scotch and bar order
- Gush forth
- Balcony
- Bulldoze; level
- Malia, to Sasha
- Stay away from
- Fair; attractive
- the platter clean; eats everything
- Shriver or Bello
- Vicinity
- Wear away
- Gung-ho
- Injections
- Skippy skirt
- Hawaiian feast
- Villain
- Give a hoot
- Farmland yield
- Steals from
- Egg's center
- Answer page of solutions



## Fear permeates young lives of Newtown witnesses

JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN

Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Connecticut

(AP) — A few nights after the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School,

David Posey heard a strange noise in his house

and went upstairs to check on his son. The little boy, who had just seen his teacher and a first-grade classmate gunned down,

was pounding on the floor. "I know where the bad guy is," the child told his father,

indicating down below, in hell. "I'm beating him up."

Hundreds of children at the school in Newtown, Connecticut that day survived the shooting, but the horrors have been especially difficult to overcome for some of the 6- and 7-year-olds who witnessed the bloodbath. Among the survivors are a dozen first-graders from the two classrooms where the gunman opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle.

Nightmares are persistent, and any reminder of the attack — a fire alarm, a clap of thunder, even the sound of an intercom — can stir feelings of panic.

At the building in a neighboring town where the survivors recently began a new school year, signs ask people to close doors softly and not to drag objects across the floor.

Their parents, grateful their children are even alive, have struggled out of public view, another set of families left reeling from the attack. For all the hugs and assurances their children are safe, the parents can no longer tell them there are no such things as monsters.

"The worst part is the helplessness," said Hugo Rojas, whose son also witnessed the shooting. "You want to take that pain away. You want to be able to take those nightmares away, but you can't."

The gunman, Adam Lanza, who killed 20 children and six educators at the school, shot his way into the building the morning of Dec. 14. As the sound of gunfire and shells hitting the floor rang out from the hallway, the children in Victoria Soto's class were moved to the

back of their room. They were sitting on the floor when Lanza burst through the door. No one spoke, not even Lanza. The gunman pointed his gun at the face of Posey's son, just inches away. But he didn't shoot him.

"He said he kind of just stared down the kids," Posey said. "My personal belief is that at that particular time he hadn't crossed the threshold of shooting a child."

Lanza shot the teacher. And a girl. As Lanza reloaded his gun, children in-

they asked that the boys' names not be published. Most of the families of the surviving witnesses have tried to shield their children's identities and struggles and have declined to speak publicly.

Two months after the shooting, Posey and his family were in the grocery store when an announcement came over the intercom. His son insisted they leave immediately. Posey was baffled, but his son later explained the intercom was on when Lanza began his rampage inside Sandy



In this file photo, a bus traveling from Newtown, Conn., to Monroe stops near 26 angel signs posted along the roadside in Monroe, Conn., on the first day of classes for Sandy Hook Elementary School students since the Dec. 14, 2012 shooting. Chalk Hill School in Monroe was overhauled especially for the students from the Sandy Hook School shooting. Hundreds of children at the school that day survived, but the horrors have been especially difficult to overcome for some of the 6- and 7-year-olds who witnessed the bloodbath, even as the school year resumed in autumn of 2013. (AP Photo/Jessica Hill)

cluding Posey's and Rojas' sons ran past blood, shattered glass and the body of their principal, lying on the hallway floor. After firing off 154 rifle shots within five minutes, Lanza killed himself with a handgun as police arrived. He also killed his mother that morning before driving to the school. Posey and Rojas described in interviews how any reminder of the attack would traumatize their sons. To protect their privacy,

Hook. "When the intercom goes off, that's when something bad is about to happen," he recalled his son telling him.

Posey also noticed changes in behavior. His once agreeable boy began to rebel, refusing to brush his teeth. He started wearing his Batman and Iron Man costumes again.

"It's his ability to be a superhero and in control," Posey said. "People don't hurt Batman." □

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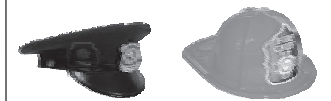
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# Ancient Greek site threatened amid celebration

**DEREK GATOPOULOS**

**Associated Press**

**NEMEA, Greece (AP)** —

While world leaders and top athletes lit the Olympic flame with pageantry drawn from antiquity, another important ancient site of athletic prowess sat overlooked and endangered.

Some 200 kilometers (125 miles) east of Ancient Olympia where the flame lighting for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi went off without a hitch Sunday, the Nemea stadium and its humbler games are in danger of closing to the public because of crisis-hit Greece's harsh budget cuts, according to a renowned American archaeologist who led excavations there for decades.

Stephen G. Miller, professor emeritus of classical archaeology at the University of California, Berkeley, arrived at Nemea in 1973, when the ancient site still lay buried beneath a highway and vineyards used by raisin farmers. Excavations there unearthed the temple and stadium, one of the



**Stephen Miller, professor emeritus of classical archaeology at the University of California, Berkeley, stands in front of the Temple of Neamean Zeus in southern Greece, Wednesday Sept. 25, 2013. Miller, who led excavations at the site starting in the 1970s, says it is in danger of closing to the public due to ongoing state staff cuts in crisis-hit Greece and failure by authorities to find alternative sources of funding. Nemea was one of the main sites of ancient Greek games, along with Olympia, Delphi and Isthmia. Miller led the modern revival of the Nemean Games, held at the site every four years since 1996.**

**Associated Press**

four major sites where Ancient Greek games were held: Olympia, Delphi, Isthmia and Nemea.

The 71-year-old has held a revival of the Nemean games every four years since 1996, a lower-key,

more egalitarian affair than the Olympics, in which athletes sporting white tunics engage in a no-prize com-

petition with a relatively small but dedicated following.

"The idea is that anyone can feel like an ancient Greek athlete for 10 minutes," he said, in a mid-week interview at Nemea, standing at the stadium's entrance tunnel, where graffiti from ancient athletes is still visible. "The thing I'm worried about is that this place is going to have to be closed."

Seven of the site's 10-member staff at Nemea have not have their contracts renewed. If they lose their final challenge in court next month, Miller said, the site will close. Staff shortages last year forced Nemea to close on weekends for 10 weeks.

"It's sad for me that it's come to this. There should be people crawling all over this place."

Greece is suffering through its sixth year of recession, a financial crisis that has seen a surge in unemployment and poverty. Forced to make deeper cuts, the government has launched a program of mass state job cuts and involuntary transfers that have already made an impact on services from Athens to rural Greece.

Nemea, near the southern city of Corinth, is steeped in ancient history. The 2,300-year-old Temple of Zeus stands next to the ancient track and a museum built at the site.

"The treasure of Greece is its antiquities and the young archaeologists trained to look after those antiquities. Instead of making the investments that would have yielded archaeology an income producing venture, it's always been shoved off to the side," Miller said. "There's no hotel here, no restaurant, no shop."

Miller, who lives in Nemea and is popular in the nearby town, greets friends in accented but precise Greek. The road leading to the ancient site at Nemea has his name on it.

"My life's work is right here," he said. "For me, this is very personal." □

## SpaceX launches Canadian satellite from California

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, California (AP)** — A

SpaceX rocket carrying a Canadian satellite intended to track space weather launched from the California coast Sunday in what was billed as a test flight.

The Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Vandenberg Air Force Base, about 150 miles (240 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles, shortly after 9 a.m. under clear skies, eventually reaching its intended orbit.

SpaceX launched an older model of Falcon 9 five times from Florida. This was the first time the Southern California-based private rocket maker flew the next-generation version that boasts upgraded engines designed to improve performance and deliver heavier payloads.

The rocket carried a satel-

lite dubbed Cassiope, a project of the Canadian Space Agency and other partners.

Once in orbit, scientists led by the University of Calgary hope to start powering up instruments after a check-out period, but the actual mission to track space weather won't begin until next month. Cassiope carries instruments to study space storms in the upper atmosphere and their potential effects on GPS navigation and radio communications.

SpaceX considered Sunday's launch a demonstration flight to test the capabilities of the improved rocket. It was the third launch from the Vandenberg base this week. Earlier, the Air Force launched back-to-back unarmed Minuteman 3 interconti-

nental ballistic missiles that traveled 4,200 miles (6,760 kilometers) over the Pacific Ocean.

Besides launching small satellites, SpaceX — or Space Exploration Technologies Corp. — has a \$1.6 billion contract with NASA to make a dozen unmanned missions to restock the International Space Station. SpaceX has completed three flights so far to the orbiting laboratory.

With NASA's space shuttle fleet retired, SpaceX is also working to modify its capsules to transport astronauts in several years. Until then, NASA astronauts are hitching rides on Russian rockets to zip to and from the space station.

A SpaceX competitor, Virginia-based Orbital Sciences Corp., launched its first-ever cargo ship bound



**A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket is launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013 as it makes its West Coast debut from Space Launch Complex-4.**

**Associated Press**

for the space station earlier this month. The arrival of Orbital's Cygnus capsule, bearing chocolate and clothing, had been delayed because of a software problem, but it docked with the space station Sunday. □



# Aaron Paul of 'Breaking Bad' has 'SNL' cameo

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — "Saturday Night Live" had some fun with anticipation over Sunday's "Breaking Bad" series finale with help from Aaron Paul in a surprise cameo.

Paul, who plays Walter White's drug compatriot Jesse Pinkman in the Emmy-winning AMC cable TV series, appeared in the opening segment of the new "SNL" season. He portrayed one of several average Americans joining President Barack Obama to testify to the need for health care coverage.

Paul mentioned a "friend" who badly needed health care when he got sick with cancer. "The man was a teacher with a family," interjected Obama, played by "SNL" cast member Jay Pharoah.

"He did what any of us would have done," Paul said. "He started cooking

meth. And soon it wasn't just meth, it was murder. And not regular murder, he blew half a guy's face off." Not pleased with the example, Obama sought to usher him off the stage.

"Wait," Paul said. "You don't want to know what happened to my friend?"

"No," said Obama, shaking his head. He was joined by several people on stage for the mock presidential speech who gave Paul a stop sign.

The "Breaking Bad" series finale airs Sunday. Fans are curious about what happens to White, the cancer-stricken teacher whose desire to provide for his family turns him into a drug lord.

Former "SNL" chief writer and cast member Tina Fey was host of the late-night show's season opener, drawing a connection to the past in what is shaping up as a transition year with the introduction of several new cast members. □



In a Sunday Sept. 22, 2013 file photo, Aaron Paul, left, and Bryan Cranston arrive at the 65th Prime-time Emmy Awards at Nokia Theatre, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

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**ORANJESTAD-** Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. With any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. Aruhiba gift boxes are now available at Dufry Shop at the Airport.



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For a group or private tour, call 586 0347 - 593 6177 or send them an email at [aruhibacigars@gmail.com](mailto:aruhibacigars@gmail.com)



# 'Cloudy' sequel tops weekend box office

**DERRIK J. LANG**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** —

"Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2" slurped up the box office.

The animated Sony sequel featuring the voices of Bill Hader and Anna Faris opened in first place and earned \$35 million in its debut weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. The original "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" was showered with \$30.3 million during its opening weekend in 2009.

"It's remarkable that it did as well as and surpassed the first film," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony Pictures. "The filmmakers really ratcheted it up in terms of palette and tone. It's one of those films that just draws you in. The

story is fun, and there's something for the whole family."

Last week's top film, "Prisoners," slid to second place. The Warner Bros. kidnapping thriller starring Hugh Jackman and Jake Gyllenhaal nabbed \$11.3 million in its second weekend, bringing its total domestic haul to \$38.9 million. Universal's Formula One tale "Rush," directed by Ron Howard and starring Chris Hemsworth, drove into the third position with \$10.3 million in its second outing after expanding to 2,297 theaters in wide release.

The weekend's other new releases — Fox Searchlight's "Baggage Claim" and Relativity's "Don Jon" — didn't have debuts quite as sunny as "Cloudy with a



This film image released by Sony Pictures Animation shows characters, from left, Earl, voiced by Terry Crews, Flint, voiced by Bill Hader, and Sam, voiced by Anna Faris in a scene from "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs." Associated Press

Chance of Meatballs 2." "Baggage Claim," which features Paula Patton as a love-seeking flight attendant, opened in fourth place with \$9.3 million. "Don Jon" debuted at No. 5 with \$9 million. The film was written, directed by

and stars Joseph Gordon-Levitt, as well as Scarlett Johansson and Julianne Moore.

Overall, the box office was down more than 7 percent versus the same weekend last year, when "Hotel Transylvania" and "Looper" opened in the top two

spots at the box office.

"This was a solid, post-summer weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "We're heading into a time where some of the most challenging and best films of the year are going to be released, like 'Gravity' and 'Runner Runner.'" Pantelion Films' "Instructions Not Included," the Spanish-language comedy starring Eugenio Derbez, earned \$3.4 million in its fifth weekend at the box office, bringing its domestic total to \$38.6 million and making it the highest grossing Spanish-language film of all time.

The record was previously held by "Pan's Labyrinth" with \$37.6 million. Overseas, "Instructions Not Included" earned an additional \$8 million. □

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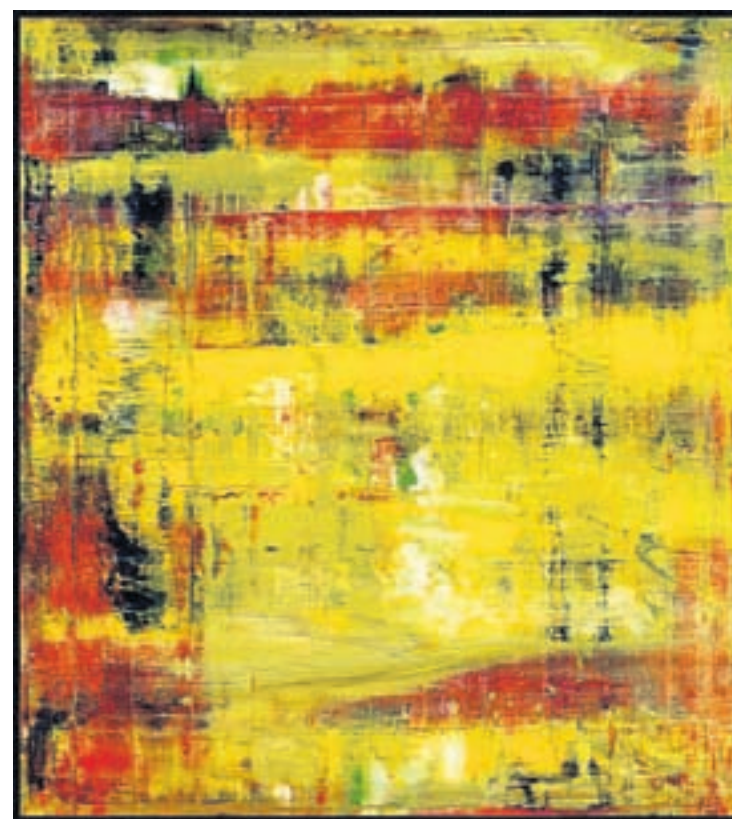
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## Eric Clapton-owned Richter painting to sell in NYC



This photo provided by Christie's Auction House shows a 1994 oil painting by German abstract painter Gerhard Richter entitled "Abstraktes Bild." Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — An oil painting by German abstract artist Gerhard Richter from Eric Clapton's collection is heading for a New York City auction. Christie's auction house says "Abstraktes Bild" is estimated to sell for \$20 million to \$25 million on Nov. 12. It says the English guitarist and songwriter bought the

painting at auction in 2001. The large oil painting was executed in 1994. It has a rich palette of red, purple, violet and yellow evocative of a fall landscape.

Richter's "Domplatz, Mailand" set a record for any living artist at auction in May when it sold at Sotheby's for \$37 million. □



## Martyrdom And Diplomacy



ROGER COHEN

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**ISTANBUL** - The Middle East is a place of fast-changing fortunes these days. Just ask the Turkish prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Not so long ago, neo-Ottomanism was the vogue phrase to describe Turkey's expanding regional influence, pursued under a catchy dogma of "zero problems with neighbors."

Now there are zero neighbors without problems. Syria is first among them. Erdogan's fulminations over the suppression of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt and the treatment of the Sunni opposition in Syria have the air of the unbalanced outbursts of a lonely man whose moderate Islamism has morphed into an immoderate fury.

Perhaps Erdogan, whose indignation is not groundless, would benefit from the counsel of a neighbor, Iran. Its fast change has involved the sudden embrace of "heroic flexibility."

The phrase, used by the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a recent speech to the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, was buttressed at the United Nations by Iranian advocacy of "prudent moderation." These unlikely words were uttered by President Hasan Rouhani, whose education in that stronghold of Enlightenment values, Scotland, appears to have had an impact. Or so it would seem. Sanity is in the Iranian air after the loony lurches of the aberrant Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Rouhani and President Barack Obama almost met in New York, a near miss that by the standards of Iranian-American estrangement over the past 34 years counts as a radical rapprochement. Hope stirs, once again, for a U.S. breakthrough with Iran of Nixon-to-China proportions.

But such is the volatility of the Middle East today, and such the hall of mirrors in Tehran, that extreme caution is warranted. As the Iranians say, "Not everything round is a walnut" - and not every form of "heroic flexibility" is an olive branch. Iran always operates on at least two tracks; to do otherwise would be simplistic. The two core Iranian tracks today are evident. The first is Rouhani's outreach, his rejection of extremism, his conciliatory (and contested) comments toward Jews, and his categorical statement: "Nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction have no place in Iran's security and defense doctrine."

The second is the heavy involvement of the elite Revolutionary Guards in defense of the Syrian despot, Bashar Assad, and the multifaceted campaign of its

Quds Force commander, Qassim Suleimani, who summoned Hezbollah into Syria and fights under the broad, often murderous banner of resistance to America, Israel and the West.

How Khamenei manages these two disparate currents will have a decisive bearing on whether the current U.S.-Iranian blandishments lead anywhere.

The supreme leader has two models from Shiite lore at his disposal: the conciliation of the second Shiite imam, Hassan ibn Ali, who chose peace over war after his father's assassination in 661, or the heroic sacrifice of his younger brother, Hussein, who fought to the death against impossible odds. Khamenei has called Hassan's compromise "history's most glorious exercise of flexibility." But it is Hussein's defiant martyrdom that has held greater sway in the 34-year history of the Islamic Republic.

For now, Khamenei's use of the phrase "heroic flexibility" suggests he will give Rouhani's conciliation quest a chance - so long, of course, as Suleimani's Plan B is there as a fallback. As one religious scholar told the Tehran Bureau news organization, it's "Hello diplomacy, so long martyrdom."

U.S.-Iranian diplomacy is fraught with potential misunderstanding. The terms of a possible nuclear deal are no great mystery. Broadly, it would involve capping Iran's uranium enrichment at 5 percent, permitting that enrichment only under intense international supervision, closing the underground facility at Fordow and abandoning any plutonium separation plans - in exchange for the progressive lifting of international sanctions.

But the zigzagging nuclear program has always been political first. It is the foremost expression of the Iranian Revolution's essence: The rejection of foreign ideology and tutelage after decades of perceived humiliation by the West. Bomb production was secondary because it was always fraught with danger for the survival of the Islamic Republic; and Khamenei, as the "Guardian of the Revolution," is in a conservative business.

So the core of the coming U.S.-Iran negotiation lies in whether Obama can reassure Iran that a nuclear deal does not equal renewed subjugation or cooperation. At the same time, Khamenei must reassure America that Suleimani's restless pursuit of violent "resistance" against the West and Israel will cease. A nuclear agreement will make little sense if it does not allow eventual U.S.-Iranian cooperation on a range of strategic issues.

Obama and Rouhani agree that this is no longer a "zero-sum" world. Both used the phrase. But as the fate of Erdogan's "zero problems" foreign policy suggests, good intentions are not enough. Hussein's martyrdom is still likely to win out over Hassan's compromise. But this is the last best chance for an accord. The United States and Iran must seize it. □



## Plutocrats Feeling Persecuted



PAUL KRUGMAN

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Robert Benmosche, the chief executive of the American International Group, said something stupid the other day. And we should be glad, because his comments help highlight an important but rarely discussed cost of extreme income inequality - namely, the rise of a small but powerful group of what can only be called sociopaths.

For those who don't recall, AIG is a giant insurance company that played a crucial role in creating the global economic crisis, exploiting loopholes in financial regulation to sell vast numbers of debt guarantees that it had no way to honor. Five years ago, U.S. authorities, fearing that AIG's collapse might destabilize the whole financial system, stepped in with a huge bailout. But even the policymakers felt ill-used - for example, Ben Bernanke, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, later testified that no other episode in the crisis made him so angry.

And it got worse. For a time, AIG was essentially a ward of the federal government, which owned the bulk of its stock, yet it continued paying large executive bonuses. There was, understandably, much public furor.

So here's what Benmosche did in an interview with The Wall Street Journal: He compared the uproar over bonuses to lynchings in the Deep South - the real kind, involving murder - and declared

that the bonus backlash was "just as bad and just as wrong."

You may find it incredible that anyone would, even for an instant, consider this comparison appropriate. But there have actually been a series of stories like this. In 2010, for example, there was a comparable outburst from Stephen Schwarzman, the chairman of the Blackstone Group, one of the world's largest private-equity firms. Speaking about proposals to close the carried-interest loophole - which allows executives at firms like Blackstone to pay only 15 percent taxes on much of their income - Schwarzman declared, "It's a war; it's like when Hitler invaded Poland in 1939."

And you know that such publicly reported statements don't come out of nowhere. Stuff like this is surely what the Masters of the Universe say to each other all the time, to nods of agreement and approval. It's just that sometimes they forget that they're not supposed to say such things where the rabble might learn about it. Also, notice what both men were defending: namely, their privileges. Schwarzman was outraged at the notion that he might be required to pay taxes just like the little people; Benmosche was, in effect, declaring that AIG was entitled to public bailouts and that its executives shouldn't be expected to make any sacrifice in return.

This is important. Sometimes the wealthy talk as if they were characters in "Atlas Shrugged," demanding nothing more from society than that the moochers leave them alone. But these men were speaking for, not against, redistribution - redistribution from the 99 percent to people like them. This isn't libertarianism; it's a demand for special treatment. It's not Ayn Rand; it's ancien régime.

Sometimes, in fact, members of the 0.01 percent are explicit about their sense of entitlement.

It was kind of refreshing, in a way, when Charles Munger, the billionaire vice chairman of Berkshire Hathaway, declared that we should "thank God" for the bailout of Wall Street, but that ordinary Americans in financial distress should just "suck it in and cope." Incidentally, in another interview - conducted at his seaside villa in Dubrovnik, Croatia - Benmosche declared that the retirement age should go up to 70 or even 80.

The thing is, by and large, the wealthy have gotten their wish. Wall Street was bailed out, while workers and homeowners weren't. Our so-called recovery has done nothing much for ordinary workers, but incomes at the top have soared, with almost all the gains from 2009 to 2012 going to the top 1 percent, and almost a third going to the top 0.01 percent - that is, people with incomes over \$10 million.

So why the anger? Why the whining? And bear in mind that claims that the wealthy are being persecuted aren't just coming from a few loudmouths. They've been all over the op-ed pages and were, in fact, a central theme of the Romney campaign last year. Well, I have a theory. When you have that much money, what is it you're trying to buy by making even more? You already have the multiple big houses, the servants, the private jet. What you really want now is adulation; you want the world to bow before your success. And so the thought that people in the media, in Congress, and even in the White House are saying critical things about people like you drives you wild.

It is, of course, incredibly petty. But money brings power, and thanks to surging inequality, these petty people have a lot of money. So their whining, their anger that they don't receive universal deference, can have real political consequences. Fear the wrath of the .01 percent! □



At Palm Beach Plaza Mall:

# Aruba's Majestic Carnival Season Comes To Life!



**PALM BEACH** - Palm Beach Plaza Mall new majestic carnival season has started at Aruba's largest mall. The Aruba Carnival is a thrilling show of over-the-top pageantry, produced by thou-

sands and delighting and uniting the entire country. Here's the scoop on how it began.

Carnival was born in 1954, as a series of small street festivals. The Tivoli Club,

Aruba's oldest private social club, was the first to have a pre-Lenten celebration in Oranjestad in February 1944. The Allied victory of World War II was commemorated by an



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Aruba Festival - a large parade in San Nicolas comprised largely of Caribbean-English immigrants who came to Aruba to work at the Lago Oil Refinery.

The first steel and brass bands debuted a few years later and small parades sprouted here and there.

Today Palm Beach Plaza Mall will have a great Carnival Show where you can experience for yourself the taste of Aruba's Carnival culture with the opportunity to take pictures with the majestic carnival dancers with carnival costumes. Come and enjoy the show! □